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A donkey's view of the Negev Travel, page 17	A toast to the green and gold Food, Page 16	Demi Moore joins the US Navy Weekender, Page 15	Index Business 10 Crossword 19 Movies/TV 19 Opinion 8 Sports 13 Weekender 15
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Gov't to weigh publication of secret Shamgar appendix

By LIAT COLLINS

Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom yesterday told the Knesset that the prime minister had set up a professional team to examine whether to publish classified parts of the Shamgar Commission's report on the assassination of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

He also said Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein is looking into whether there are grounds to prosecute Avishai Raviv, the GSS operative accused of leading right-wing groups involved in incitement and anti-Arab attacks leading up to the assassination.

Rubinstein said there is no immunity clause in Raviv's file to prevent him from facing charges. He expects to decide within a few weeks whether to prosecute Raviv on charges of knowing about the assassination plot and failing to try to prevent it.

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi said he had asked to see the classified section of the Shamgar Report so he could answer questions about Raviv.

The Knesset debate yesterday was dominated by six motions about whether there was a conspiracy behind the assassination, introduced by legislators from Meretz, The Third Way, Hadash, Labor, Mokedet, the National Religious Party, and Shas.

Two additional motions were raised about Raviv's alleged role in the assassination. MKs voted to hold another debate on these issues.

MK David Azulai of Shas denounced Raviv as "the biggest provocateur in the history of the state," and asked where he had disappeared after the assassination. Azulai also inquired about a report by Arutz 7 claiming that Raviv was being paid a monthly stipend of NIS 9,300.

"The mysterious cry of 'Blanks, blanks,' [reportedly heard after the shots at Rabin] which remains unclear to this day — who said it? Who sent the beeper messages [to journalists immediately after the assassination] saying: 'This time we failed'?" Azulai asked.

Shalom maintained "there is no basis for the conspiracy theory. It's completely untenable."

Some heckling ensued in the plenum. MK Dedi Zucker of Meretz accused Nissan Slomiansky of the NRP of promoting the conspiracy theory, "because you want to make it seem that was what led to Rabin's murder."

Zucker also pointed an accusing finger at what he called "some of the knitted kippot wearers." The NRP newspaper *Horofeh* came under attack for publishing a theory alleging that MK Shimon Peres was behind the assassination plot.

MK Dalia Itzik of Labor demanded the paper be closed. "I learned some agriculture," she said. "Wild weeds don't just spring up. They grow close to water sources." She called the newspaper "dangerous."

MK Hashem Mahameed of Hadash said he had been threatened with death by Raviv and asked: "How many more wild weeds are there like him still in the GSS?"

Mokedet leader MK Rehavam Ze'evi said the question of Raviv could not be allowed to drop and would naturally arise every year around the anniversary of Rabin's assassination.

Arish O'Sullivan contributed to this report.

Israel-PA talks may recess today

By HILLEL KUTTLER and news agencies

WASHINGTON — Israeli-Palestinian negotiations are likely to recess today after less than a week, an Israeli official said yesterday. The sides were to decide last night or today when and where to reconvene, he said.

Full-fledged discussions began here yesterday after two additional Palestinian negotiators arrived, following American pressure that they were needed to help close deals on several interim-status matters.

Three sub-committees met at a State Department campus outside the city on establishing a Gaza airport, a safe-passage route between Gaza and the West Bank, and building an industrial park at Karni.

Foreign Minister David Levy, the Palestinian Authority's Mahmoud Abbas, and US special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross also met on how to move to final-status negotiations.

Talks on opening a Gaza seaport recessed Tuesday night without agreement, but with the sides hoping to conclude by next week.

A State Department spokesman said the talks were "serious and constructive. Obviously gaps remain, but the parties are getting down to business." It was the first US comment on the talks, which seek to break an eight-month negotiating deadlock.

The gaps are still there, especially on the main issues of further redeployment and unilateral steps, Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said. "We are trying to work out the differences, but we need a long, long time."

But Levy cited an improved atmosphere and the "huge efforts" being made by both sides. He said both are deep into discussions on the main issues and expressed hope that agreement on a "full package" of measures broadening the peace could be reached by the end of the week.



Palestinian schoolboys carrying Iraqi and Palestinian flags shout pro-Saddam Hussein slogans during a demonstration organized by their school administrators at Bethlehem's Dehaishe refugee camp.

UN, Iraq to resume talks today

BAGHDAD (Reuters) — Iraq and the United Nations will meet for another round of talks today on Baghdad's order barring Americans from arms inspection teams in Iraq, the leader of the UN team said yesterday.

UN envoy Lakhdar Brahimi said he was pleased that Iraq had agreed to delay the expulsion of the US inspectors until his team had finished its work and reported back to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

"I would like to record my appreciation for the fact that Iraq suspended their decision to exclude [American] members of the UN inspection team, which allowed these discussions to be more relaxed," Brahimi told reporters after the second round of talks.

He said Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz had briefed the team on Iraq's position during yesterday's two sessions.

"We listened to their grievances and to the point of view they wished to explain. We are going to see them again tomorrow and continue the discussions," he said.

There was no comment from the government on the talks.

UN suspects Iraq of tampering with cameras

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) — Iraq may have moved material away from UN observation cameras or tampered with the cameras themselves, the chief UN inspector reported yesterday.

Richard Butler, chairman of the UN Special Commission in charge of ridding Iraq of weapons of mass destruction, said the equipment included items that could be used to balance forbidden missile gyroscopes. He made the statements in a letter to the Security Council.

UN arms inspectors have a monitoring system in Iraq for so-called dual use equipment that could be used in dangerous weapons as well as for civilian use.

In his letter, Butler said that "significant pieces of dual-capable equipment, subject to monitoring by the commission's remote camera monitoring system have been moved out of view of the cameras."

"Furthermore, it appears that cameras may have been intentionally tampered with, lenses covered, and lighting turned off in the facilities under monitoring."

He said UN staff intends to inspect two of the facilities concerned today to try to find the equipment that had been moved.

Baghdad opposition sources:

PA hiding Iraqi arms secrets

By JAY BUSHINSKY

The Palestinian Authority's embassy in Baghdad is being used as a repository for secret documents that relate to Iraq's buildup of unconventional weapons, Iraqi opposition sources said yesterday.

They said the site's diplomatic immunity evidently keeps the documents beyond the reach of UN arms inspectors.

The documents relate to the purchase of raw materials required for Iraq's manufacture and deployment of weapons of mass destruction, a senior figure in the underground movement to overthrow President Saddam Hussein said.

He attributed his knowledge of the documents' contents to "sources inside Iraqi intelligence."

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's political adviser Nabil Amr said, "I have no idea about this information."

Asked if it was conceivable that the embassy could be used to hide sensitive Iraqi documents, he declined to comment.

The PA embassy is situated in Arafat's private residence in Baghdad, a heavily guarded palatial structure well inside a compound.

"The material is in Yasser Arafat's house," the Iraqi exile said. "It's a fact."

One of the Iraqi opposition groups' American sympathizers, who worked with them in London from 1991 to 1994 and recently resumed activity on their behalf in Washington, said the hidden documents refer to Iraq's chemical weapons, VX nerve gas, "and possibly nuclear arms."

Arafat's residence, "which has just been designated as the PA embassy," he went on, has extraterritorial status and therefore "it is difficult for the UN arms inspectors to make a fuss about it."

Speaking for the Iraqi opposition, the source said, "we have had agents at the site who could see that the embassy building is used to hide documents."

He said the nerve gas is stored in a solid state, "like salt," and probably is deposited in the Iraqi desert.

The alleged existence of secret repositories which effectively are off limits to the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) was reported to its British chairman, Richard Butler, in a confidential letter sent by the Iraqi exiles on September 16. Its text contains these passages:

"We learned certain information from sources in Baghdad which will be of use to you."

"We believe there are documents regarding Iraq's weapons of mass destruction hidden in St. Joseph's Church in the Dora district. The church is on the main street across from the Assyrian market."

"There are also important documents being stored at the Baghdad residence of President Yasser Arafat in the Jadriya district."

The cordial relations between the PA and Saddam's regime are borne out by a report in the Palestinian press this week that \$100 million in aid from the Iraqi government is being blocked by the UN.

Sources here believe Iraq is interested in exporting oil to the PA through Jordan in addition to providing monetary assistance or as a substitute for it, but this is being prevented by Israel. "It could be a lucrative proposition for all the parties concerned," a source said, "Iraq, Jordan, Israel, and the PA."

Elements of the Palestinian Police were trained in Iraq "and the Iraqi government pays the PA for using camps on Iraqi soil," the source went on, contending that Iraq has been actively involved in preparing terrorists for missions which it initiates.

"Arafat never stopped his relations with Iraqi intelligence," a Palestinian familiar with the inner workings of the PA said.

He said Arafat's reported meeting in Amman with Iraq's ambassador on August 8 "actually was with a senior Iraqi intelligence officer. The Iraqi Embassy was the logical venue, because Iraqi intelligence personnel never stay in hotels when they are abroad."

Mohammed Najib adds: Five Palestinian organizations sent a joint message to Saddam yesterday stating their opposition to American "aggression" against Iraq. They also called on the UN to lift its sanctions.

The message was signed by representatives of Fatah, the PFLP, DFPLP, Popular Struggle, and the Arab Liberation Front.

German court finds for one of 21 slave laborers

By ELLI WOHLGELER, ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER, and news agencies

A German court yesterday found that only one claimant who worked as a slave laborer at an Auschwitz munitions factory should be paid \$8,690, but that the other 20 women who filed for remuneration had already been compensated.

"We welcome the decision, which recognizes in principle the obligation to compensate Holocaust survivors for the slave labor they were forced to render," said Saul Kagan, executive vice president of the Claims Conference. "However, we are disappointed that the court excluded survivors who received compensation previously."

Rywka Merin, who emigrated to Israel in the late 1960s, was entitled to compensation, the court said. It found that as a former East Bloc resident she had been unable to apply for funds under the 1953 German Indemnification Law.

The other claimants — from Israel, the US, Canada, and Germany — were compensated under that law, the court found.

The verdict could set a precedent allowing more slave labor survivors from East Bloc nations to claim compensation from Germany.

Those who lost yesterday said they would appeal. Henryka Shejnberg, 72, of Tel Aviv, said they would "fight for whatever it takes" to be compensated.

"Obviously, the decision was very disappointing and we are very unhappy. We were not asking for any gifts, any handouts. This was money we earned," said Shejnberg, who lost her parents and seven brothers and sisters in the Holocaust. She also had to have toes amputated after they froze on a "death march" from Auschwitz.

"Frankly, if you ask me, I think it bothers them that we continue to stay alive for so long, fighting to be given what we deserve," Shejnberg asserted.

She and the other claimants worked at the Union Munitions factory while interned at Auschwitz from 1943 to 1945.

As young girls at the time, the laborers, all Jewish, suffered 12 hour work days, six days a week for 27 to 68 weeks.

In all, about 7 million slave laborers were forced to work for Nazi Germany during the war.

Thousands of Holocaust victims and former slave laborers in the former East Bloc have yet to receive compensation from Germany, Judge Heinz Sonnenberger said.

He said it was not the court's duty to determine the fate of all these claims, but rather "a political issue for which legislators could find a new ruling."

The case took six years to reach a verdict.

Germany has previously refused to honor wage claims by slave workers, alleging that they worked for private companies. Germany has paid more than \$58 billion in reparations to Nazi victims.

It is now reluctantly involved in negotiations to compensate survivors in central and eastern Europe.

Moshe Zambor, chairman of the Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel, said "this decision sounds reasonable for one part of the claimants and very astonishing for the other."

He estimated that the ruling could affect between 50,000 and 150,000 survivors.

Bonn has insisted that, under current legislation, no one is entitled to compensation purely for forced labor, but possibly for suffering damage to their health or loss of income.

Some major German industrial firms, including Siemens and Mercedes-Benz, have paid reparations to wartime laborers.

US bill would publish war criminals' records

By SLOBODAN LEKIC

WASHINGTON (AP) — A bill that would make public all US government records on Nazi war criminals compiled since World War II was introduced in the Senate yesterday.

"The time has come for the United States to lift the last remaining veils of secrecy on one of the darkest periods in human history," said Sen. Mike DeWine, a bill cosponsor.

The legislation would complete an effort started last year, when Congress passed a non-binding resolution urging government agencies to open those records.

President Clinton praised the resolution, saying it was "clearly in our public interest to learn any remaining secrets about the Holocaust." The bill would amend the Freedom of Information Act to suspend restrictions on disclosure of information for Nazi-related materials.

NEWS

in brief

PA to answer extradition requests

The Palestinians have agreed to respond next month to 26 extradition requests, although no suspect has been extradited since the Oslo Accords. The answers will be given when the joint Israeli-Palestinian legal committee meets, the Justice Ministry said last night.

This emerged from talks between Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi and his Palestinian counterpart, Freib Abu-Medien. The meeting was also attended by Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein. The two sides agreed to set up two sub-committees to deal with civil legal matters and with questions relating to prisoners, ministry spokeswoman Ety Eshed said. *Basheva Tsor*

IAF rejects new technology parts for F-15I

The Israel Air Force has refused new technology parts for the F-15I fighter jet, because it cannot afford them, although defense executives say these parts could save the air force money and improve performance of the \$88 million plane.

Boeing vice president James Finnitt said Boeing is trying to establish an Israeli company to supply the cost-reducing components to the IAF.

The first of 25 F-15Is, in a \$2.5 billion contract awarded in 1994, will be displayed in a ceremony today attended by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and senior executives of Boeing, which merged last August with McDonnell Douglas, maker of the F-15. *Steve Rodan*

Vilnai says he has great respect for Palestinians

In an interview with Israel Radio, Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilnai, who said the Palestinians had "the brains of a pigeon," clarified his remarks made to high school students in Eilat on Monday.

Vilnai said yesterday that he had referred to suicide bombers and that he had great respect for the Palestinian people and their leaders.

"It is impossible that three Gazans with the brain of a pigeon, a kindergarten education, idiots - and I know some of them - will strike us and we will back down," Vilnai was quoted as saying. "When a terrorist hears whining and arguments within a society it gives him the feeling of success," he said. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

KITTY CASPER

Widow of the late South African Chief Rabbi passed away in Jerusalem on November 4

deeply mourned

H. Saenger

On behalf of the South African Jewish Community

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our dearest

LEAH (Leika) GOODMAN

Beloved wife of Alan
Mother of Saranna, Naomi, Mali, Hila and David
Sister of Musha and Yucke,
Dearly loved grandmother

The funeral will take place today, Thursday, November 6, 1997 at 3 p.m. at the Sayon Cemetery. Shiva at 26 Magal Street, Sayon.



The Jerusalem Foundation
deeply mourns the passing of

BARON EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD

a dear friend of Jerusalem
and sends condolences to
Baroness Nadine de Rothschild and
his son, Benjamin de Rothschild.



The leadership and staff of
ISRAEL BONDS

mourn the death of

BARON EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD

a long-time and generous supporter
of Israel's economic development.

His warmth, leadership and great contributions to Israel and the world Jewish community will be sorely missed. Our heartfelt condolences to his wife, Baroness Nadine de Rothschild, and their son Benjamin.

Hussein loyalists victorious in Jordanian general election

AMMAN (AP) - Tribal leaders loyal to the monarchy defeated Moslem fundamentalists in Tuesday's parliamentary elections.

With the vote count complete, the tribal chiefs won 68 seats in the 80-member lower house of parliament. Independent fundamentalist candidates and their left allies won only 12, after a major Islamic party boycotted the vote.

All 17 women among the 524 candidates lost.

Among the victors was Mansour Seifeddine Murad, a former terrorist who was jailed in Greece for a 1969 hand grenade attack on the Athens office of El Al that killed a child. Murad was freed in 1970 in exchange for 55 hostages aboard a hijacked Olympic Airways plane.

The results of Tuesday's vote strengthened Hussein's rule and dealt a severe blow to the fundamentalists and leftists who oppose his pro-Western style and the peace treaty with Israel.

"I promise the people that I will

serve this country and its leadership," declared Abdullah Aqayleh, a leader of the Islamic Action Front, who was dismissed for ignoring his fundamentalist party's boycott and running in the election.

Aqayleh is also a tribal leader and like other tribal chiefs has deep loyalty to Hussein, who has given tribes senior government and army posts, free education and health services, and large tracts of lands to settle.

Tuesday's vote was for the lower

house, known formally as the Chamber of Deputies. The 40-member upper house is appointed by the king.

The parliament has more powers than most Arab legislatures. It adopts laws and can unseat governments, but the king has the power to veto its actions, dissolve it, and rule by decree.

Because of these limitations, the parliament is seen by voters more as a forum for voicing local grievances than a symbol of democracy.

"People are more preoccupied with bread-and-butter issues," said Alaa Tadrus, 47, a tire shop owner in Salt. "Leave politics on the side. I want to feed my kids. Why should I care otherwise?" Tadrus said, adding that he did not vote.

The fundamentalist Islamic Action Front and eight other leftist and pan-Arab nationalist parties said their boycott of the polls was a protest against the government's restrictions on public freedoms, its economic policies, and the peace treaty with Israel.

NEWSLINE

with Prof. Asher Susser

By DAVID RUDGE

Has the outcome of the Parliamentary elections in Jordan created any major changes?

It has not changed anything in terms of the stability of the regime. The results, however, do reflect a disenchantment that exists in significant sections of the population about a variety of issues.

Was the boycott the prime reason for the relatively low turnout?

It was certainly a contributing factor, but not the only one. The decreased turnout also reflects disaffection with the manner in which the parliament has conducted itself and the sense among Jordanians that it has not been very effective.

What were the main items of disaffection that were raised in the elections?

One point is a general disaffection with the economic situation which has improved on the macro level but has not trickled down to the man in the street. Unemployment is still high and rising prices are challenging the standard of living rather than raising it as one would expect.

Another is the peace process. People were led to believe that there would be a peace dividend from the accord with

Israel. This has not happened. The election of Prime Minister Netanyahu, the halting of the Palestinian track and the Mashal affair have resulted in the peace process being criticized by a wider segment of the population than when the treaty was signed.

Is the criticism of the peace treaty with Israel high on the list?

The peace process was certainly a factor in the elections but I would not say that it was point number one.

Has the composition of the parliament changed as a result of the elections?

The opposition has lost about half of the power they had in the previous parliament.

Was the boycott of the elections by the Islamic fundamentalists solely a demonstration of dissatisfaction?

They may have feared that their popularity had declined and that this could be exposed in the elections. The number of people who believe in the Islamist solution today is not as high as it was in 1989. This may also be true in other countries.

Prof. Susser is a senior fellow at Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center for Middle Eastern Studies

Kahane Hai activist's retrial opens

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

The trial of Kahane Hai activist David Axelrod was reopened yesterday in Kfar Sava Magistrate's Court eight months after he was acquitted of charges of praising violent acts.

In an interview on Channel 1 a day after the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Axelrod said he was happy to hear that the wicked man had been murdered and that he and his friends had drunk a toast.

In the same interview, he said he was against violence, especially

violence in the Land of Israel.

Judge David Mualim, who presided over the hearing, ruled Axelrod's words did not encourage violence although they were unacceptable to society.

Mualim stressed that in a democratic society, there is freedom of speech.

The state appealed the ruling, and the case was bought before Judge Gabriela Levy yesterday. Levy postponed the hearing until January.

Axelrod told reporters that "many incited against Rabbi Meir Kahane, and when he was mur-

dered in the US charges were not brought against any of those people."

Axelrod's case should not be confused with that of David Axelrod (Srotsky), who also lives in Tapuah and was acquitted by Mualim of similar charges on Sunday.

His acquittal, for expressing joy at Rabin's murder in an interview with Israel Radio shortly after the assassination, aroused anger in both legal and political spheres. The State Attorney's Office said it is considering appealing the verdict.

Poll: We haven't learned from Rabin murder

Two years after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, nearly 41 percent of Israelis feel that neither the religious nor the secular have done sufficient soul-searching over the event or have learned practical lessons from it.

This is one of the findings from a poll commissioned by the Geshet association, which promotes understanding between the secular and religious. The survey found that 45% of secular respondents have this view, which is shared by 38% of the religious.

Asked who they thought did more soul-searching,

40.8% said no one; but 23.7% said the secular and 14.3% said the religious. Another 17.8% said both groups performed introspection equally following the murder and 3.4% had no opinion.

Asked who they thought should have done soul-searching, 60% responded that both the secular and religious should have done so equally; 20.3% said the religious should have done so more than the secular; 8% said only the religious; 6.3% said the secular more than the religious; 1.4% said only the secular; and 4% had no opinion. (Iim)

Most oppose Netanyahu's remark on Left's Jewishness

By Jerusalem Post Staff

A decisive majority of the public is opposed to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's recent assertion that the Left "has forgotten what it means to be a Jew."

According to a Peace Index poll, conducted on October 29, 68.5 percent of the public is opposed or strongly opposed to Netanyahu's statement.

Only 22.6% agreed or strongly agreed, and 8.8% had no clear opinion.

When the answers are divided according to Left-Right self-definition, 44.8% of the rightists agree with the statement, as against 5.7% of the leftists and 10.1% in the Center.

Other poll results showed that approximately 50% believe there

is no difference between Left and Right in concern for national security.

However, according to prevailing belief, the democratic character of the state is more important to the Left (45%) than to the Right (16.5%); while 28% said the two sides value democracy equally.

Opinion is also divided on how the peace process has influenced relations between secular and religious Jews.

Only a few believe it has led to rapprochement, while 44% believe it has had no influence and 42% believe it has increased the distance between the two groups.

Of those polled, 37.5% declared themselves rightists, 32% leftists, 20.4% in the Center, and the rest did not know.

Syria says peace possible within three months

BEIRUT (Reuters) - Syrian Vice President Abdel-Halim Khaddam said yesterday that peace could be reached within three months if Israel returns the Golan Heights.

"If Israel also wants peace let it withdraw and this could lead to a peace agreement within three months," he said in an interview with Lebanon's private Future Television. "It is natural that if we are faced with aggression, that aggression will not be a picnic."

Meanwhile, President Hafez Assad yesterday welcomed a European role in pushing the Middle East peace process forward, his spokesman said.

The official Syrian news agency SANA quoted European Union envoy Miguel Moratinos as saying after talks with Foreign Minister Farouk Shara that Europe wanted to play an active role in the Middle East peace process.

Assad's spokesman, Joubran

Kourieh, said in a statement that Assad "welcomed an effective European role in the peace process that would push the process towards its goal in achieving just and comprehensive peace."

"Moratinos explained the European Union views over the current situation and the efforts it is exerting to break the deadlock and push the process forward," Kourieh added.

Moratinos said the EU wants to see "a resumption of negotiations on the Syrian-Israeli track as soon as possible. The EU is completely committed to work to achieve just and comprehensive peace in the region. And I have assured [Shara] that the EU is trying hard to play an active role," SANA quoted Moratinos as saying.

It said Shara renewed Syria's demand to resume peace talks from where they left off with the previous Israeli Labor government.

The Shadchanit Convention

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Morning sessions 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Evening sessions 8 - 10 p.m.

NIS 10 entrance fee
13 Rehov Azza, Rechavia
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With deep sorrow, the family announces the loss of the beloved

EVER HAGGIAG

who died in Rome on November 4, 1997 (5 Heshvan 5758).

The funeral will be held in Jerusalem today, Thursday, November 6, leaving from Ben-Gurion Airport at 5 p.m. for Har Hazeitim, Jerusalem. (Hevra Kaddisha Le'adat Habavlim)

מקום הנחלה

Swiss office would

Weizman to head

HEBREW PRESS

It's time with our

Gesher: A br

Swiss officials deny proposed foundation would exclude Holocaust survivors

By MARILYN HENRY

Swiss officials yesterday denied reports that a proposed \$5 billion "Solidarity Foundation" would exclude assistance to Holocaust survivors.

However, it was not clear how the foundation would be organized, who would benefit, and whether it would be approved.

Working groups, convened by the Swiss Finance Ministry to determine how the foundation would work, recommended last

week that priority be given to projects aimed at preventing violence, rather than aiding individuals.

"No group is excluded," a Swiss Foreign Ministry source said.

She explained that the foundation was intended to finance long-term projects, while immediate individual needs could be met through a "humanitarian fund," started last winter.

The fund and foundation have been routinely confused in public discussion.

Jewish Agency chairman

Abraham Burg said yesterday he "would go to the ends of the earth not to permit such a fund to be established," if Holocaust survivors were excluded. "Holocaust survivors should be first on line, not last," he said.

Burg also appealed to Jewish leaders in the US to campaign against the setting up of such a foundation, him reported.

The Swiss government proposed the "Solidarity Foundation" last March, saying it would be financed with interest from gold

reserves.

The foundation, being established next year, would benefit Swiss and non-Swiss victims of genocide, disaster and human rights abuses, according to Swiss President Arnold Koller.

The idea was to aid Holocaust victims and other needy people.

Swiss Finance Minister Kaspar Villiger has said that the planned foundation would address general rather than individual cases. The foundation needs to be approved by referendum.

The other charity, the "humanitarian fund," made up of contributions from Swiss banks and industry, was established March 1 to help needy survivors, Jews and non-Jews alike.

Allocations were to be decided by a council with representatives from the World Jewish Restitution Organization.

The WJRO has said that a first stipend of some \$12 million would be handed out to needy Holocaust survivors in eastern and central Europe by the month's end.

Weizman, chief rabbis: It's time to heal religious-secular rift

By BAT-SHEVA TSUR

President Ezer Weizman and the two chief rabbis yesterday issued appeals on the second anniversary of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination for greater understanding between religious and secular Jews.

"There are a great deal of differences of opinions between the religious and the secular and we should all take this memorial week as a time for soul-searching," Weizman said. "One of the most important ways to calm down the situation is for secular and religious Jews to reach out to each other."

Weizman spoke during a swearing-in ceremony for five new religious court judges at Beit Hanassi.

"It is no secret that the nation is divided in two. There is a deep schism, there is hatred. Particularly this week, we have heard far too much about deepening chasms and far too little about tolerance and bridging differences," Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau, said.

Lau discussed the historic divisions among Jews.

"Even in the time of Moses, it was necessary to appoint judges in order to keep the peace," he noted.

"Moses appointed 78,600 judges for a population of 600,000. There seems to be some flaw in our personalities which leads to confrontation and we must combat this. We must seek and love peace and love other human beings."

Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Dor described the slaying of Rabin "by someone who believed he was acting out of ide-



President Ezer Weizman shakes hands with one of the religious court judges sworn in yesterday at Beit Hanassi. (Efraim Kishitok)

ology" as "an unequalled desecration of God's name."

"Everything possible must be done in order to correct this," he said.

"Thou shalt not kill is a com-

mandment and it is our duty to see it is upheld. We must extinguish hatred by showing human kindness."

Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer added: "No-

one is permitted to kill in the name of religion. It must be absolutely clear that it is not possible to try to change the path of history by killing a prime minister."

The engineer will be brought before a municipal affairs tribunal shortly, Amor said.

Amor then asked the municipal-

ity's comptroller to carry out an investigation. Amor said yesterday

he had "automatically" signed the

form presented him by the engineer

and did not notice what it referred to. "I sign hundreds of forms every week."

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NEWS

in brief

MKS approve long school-day for 100 localities

A long school-day will be operated in 100 localities throughout the country starting January 1, the Knesset Education Committee decided yesterday. Pupils in the selected locations will study 41 hours during a six-day week, ministry Director-General Ben Zion Dell said, adding that "affirmative action" is to be given in the program to Arab schools.

The first 100 localities for the program include confrontation line settlements, towns in development zone A, those with unemployment above 10 percent, those under 10,000 population, and Project Renewal neighborhoods. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Rabin memorial website launched

A permanent, on-line memorial site for Yitzhak Rabin, which has an index of all other Internet sites on the assassinated premier, was launched this week by CoralNet. Visitors may leave a personal message and view slides showing important events in his life. The site, which appears in Hebrew and English, is at <http://www.coral.net/rabin>. *Judy Siegel*

Canadian foreign minister to visit

Canadian Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy will visit Israel, the Palestinian Authority, and five other Middle Eastern states next week in an effort to drum up support for the international convention against the use of anti-personnel mines.

Due to arrive in Jerusalem on Tuesday, Axworthy also has the Middle East peace process at the top of his agenda. Axworthy's itinerary will take him to Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria en route to the World Economic Forum which opens in Qatar on November 16. He is also to stop in Ankara to urge Turkey's leaders to participate in the international land-mine conference in Ottawa next month. *Jay Bushinsky*

Kashrut complaint line launched

The Chief Rabbinate has instituted a 24-hour telephone service to field complaints about kashrut fraud. According to the law, any business or food product advertising itself as kosher must have a certificate from the local rabbinate. Imported food products must have kashrut certification from the Chief Rabbinate.

According to Daniel Aviv, spokesman for the Chief Rabbinate, the most common cases of fraud are for a restaurant or eating place to advertise itself as kosher, even though it is not supervised by the local rabbinate, for a business to display an out-of-date kashrut certificate, or for a shop to sell non-kosher items advertised as kosher. To make a complaint, call (02) 5313187. A recorded message asks the caller to report the name and address of the offender and his own name and telephone number. *Haim Shapiro*

Jerusalem-TA rail service suspended further

Train service between the capital and Tel Aviv has been further suspended following the discovery of defects in the line. Service was halted last week after a second derailment near Bar Giora. It is expected that repairs will be completed by mid-month.

Israel Railways Director-General Amos Uzani said that many years of neglect are responsible for the large number of derailments in recent weeks, and he intends to request a special budget of NIS 50 million from the Treasury to upgrade infrastructure, in particular on the Jerusalem and Beersheba lines. *Sybil Ehrlich*

Police seize unauthorized reptiles

Police confiscated 35 reptiles from the home of a tour guide in Kiryat Arba on Tuesday. The reptiles were handed over to Nature Authority officials. Judea and Samaria Police spokesman Opher Sivan said police, acting on a tip, discovered poisonous snakes, turtles, other reptiles, and stuffed animals in the house. Sivan said the suspect had violated the Reptiles Law, which requires authorized permits to hold them at home. *Margot Dudkevitch*

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Conspiracy theory

Fiance Minister Yaakov Neeman's appeal to the prime minister to investigate the suspicions of General Security Service involvement in the Rabin assassination raised in a *Ha'aretz* article provoked media tumult.

"There is nothing that the politicians won't invent, including sick, groundless conspiracy theories, in order to lay the blame on the other side," writes *Yediot Aharonot's* Nahum Barnea.

Ma'ariv's Ron Miberg warns of a never-ending debate around the false conspiracy issue: "If we do not get the whole story [from Yigal Amir], we will be destined to fluctuate until the end of time between the truth as we know it and the demonic and imaginary versions of those who attempt to draw political and demagogic gain."

Miberg adds in an article with Amnon Dankner that from a clever attorney like Neeman, "we would not have expected a political novice's slip."

"Deaths and assassinations that are difficult to absorb usually produce false charges," states *Ha'aretz's* Hanna Kim, adding that conspiracy is often the only way to deal with the guilt of the assassination and the problems that the assassin had attempted to

resolve through his act.

Axelrod verdict

David Axelrod's acquittal by a Kfar Sava Magistrate's Court judge on charges of praising the Rabin assassination, aroused commentators' dismay.

Prof. Ruth Gabizon in *Yediot* states that although the judge's verdict was not unfounded, it is infuriating.

"[Judge] Muallem's verdict... brings back the frustration and embarrassment regarding the limits of the country's courts in facing the terrible rupture in the nation."

Ha'aretz's Ze'ev Segal claims that the verdict is puzzling, as Axelrod's statement, clearly violates the prohibition of publicizing praise of violence.

He adds that the acquittal was given in the worst possible timing, coming as it did on the second anniversary of Rabin's death.

Sharon's defeat

The dismissal of the libel suit brought by Ariel Sharon against *Ha'aretz* and journalist Uzi Benziman was also a focus of comment.

"Sharon should have known that libel charges are either pre-empted by a total fool or by a total idiot," claims *Yediot's* Mordechai Gilat, who said that Sharon is neither.

Ma'ariv's Yosef Lapid asserts that if the Supreme Court does not change the verdict, "it is likely that Sharon's political career will be over."

Bina Barzel, in *Yediot*, claims that losing the trial will not be a political obstacle for Sharon.

"Despite the fact that Sharon has no 'camp' in the Likud, he enjoys wide support... that only strengthens each time he is attacked."

Saddam's provocation

"[Iraqi leader] Saddam Hussein is moving one step forward and two steps back in the escalation of the conflict," writes *Ma'ariv's* Oded Granot, referring to the decision that a UN delegation will mediate between the Americans and the Iraqis, after the latter refused to accept the American inspectors.

"On the one hand, he is waiting for the delegation's visit, and on the other, he doubles the provocative acts," referring to Saddam's latest attempt to stop the flights of intelligence and inspection.

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WELCOME AND WELCOME BACK

Maccabiah bridge collapse: 'Decision on charges by end of month'

By ESTHER HECHT

A decision will be made by the end of this month on whether to prosecute anyone involved in the bridge collapse at last July's Maccabiah Games, State Attorney Edna Arbel said yesterday.

The Justice Ministry is relating with the utmost seriousness to the disaster, in which four athletes were killed and 62 injured, Arbel said in a meeting with Mark Leibler, president of UJA/Keren Hayesod in Australia. Following completion of the police investigation and testimony by expert witnesses, the criminal investigation is proceeding in the Tel Aviv district attorney's office, Arbel added.

The meeting followed complaints by the families of the victims that insurance claims are being held up by the delay in prosecuting. This week, they reportedly sent a sharply worded letter to Australian Sports Minister Andrew Thompson demanding that Israel be barred from the Olympic Games scheduled to take place in Sydney in the year 2000 if those responsible for the tragedy are not held accountable.

However, Ron Weiser, president of the Zionist Federation of Australia, denied that an organized group within the Australian Jewish community has approached Thompson regarding a boycott of the Israeli athletes for the Olympics. "It is absolute rubbish to state or

infer that this community is considering such a boycott."

The families also complained that funds earmarked by the Prime Minister's Office to provide loans for initial financial assistance are apparently stuck in red tape.

The loan funds are now available, and payment will be made immediately upon receipt of a list of applicants from Maccabi Australia, said Miriam Rubinstein, director of the civil department in the State Attorney's Office, who attended the meeting initiated by Leibler.

The handling of the tragedy has caused cracks in the Australian Jewish community, and in its relations with Israel, Leibler said. "I'm convinced Edna Arbel understands this."

Leibler attributed the tension and distress in the Australian community to the manner in which Israel handled the aftermath of the disaster. "It's not so much the substance of how this has been handled, but miscommunication and insensitivity," he said.

There have been repeated assurances from the Prime Minister's Office that the loans were being expedited, but deadlines passed and nothing happened, he said.

He had also been brushed off by someone in the Tel Aviv district attorney's office who, he said, had told him, "We have lots of priorities. We'll come back to you when we can."



Arab students protest

Members of the Hebrew University's Arab Students Union protest yesterday on the Mt. Scopus campus over the lack of housing for Arab students, particularly first-year students. The Hebrew signs read: 'Equality is a right, not a favor' and 'They don't even give us caravans.' The Arabic sign at left reads: 'There's a limit to patience.'

(Israel Haim)

Indian community furious at rabbi's refusal to okay marriages

By ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

Members of the Indian community are furious at a sweeping decision by Petah Tikva Chief Rabbi Shimon Salomon to refuse to approve the marriages of young people of Indian descent.

The issue came to the fore after a young couple was sent a letter early this week informing them that their application for marriage was refused on the grounds that the prospective bride, Orly Solomon, came from an Indian family.

Solomon is scheduled to wed next Thursday, and had submitted

her documents for approval back in December.

But last month, Salomon issued a balachic decision questioning the Judaism of the more than 100,000 "B'nai Israel" Jews who immigrated from India in the 1950s and '60s.

Only Salomon was informed that, without undergoing a ritual immersion as a conversion ceremony, she would not be permitted to marry under Petah Tikva auspices.

Other members of the Indian community attempting to register in Petah Tikva have received the same notice.

"I can't believe this is happen-

ing," Salomon said yesterday. "How can I be Jewish everywhere else in Israel, and not in Petah Tikva?"

On Tuesday, in an effort to bypass the refusal of the Petah Tikva rabbinat, the couple decided to attempt to register to marry in Rosh Ha'ayin. But the rabbi refused to register them without a written referral from the Petah Tikva rabbi.

In Rosh Ha'ayin, she reported, she was told that "we don't accept the goyim of Petah Tikva," and asked "what's the big deal about undergoing a conversion?"

Salomon flatly refuses to con-

sider that option. "To get married under the auspices of our own municipality, where we grew up and paid taxes, is our right."

"We are Israeli citizens, we did our army service, we are Jews. It has hurt my parents deeply that their Judaism has been called into question."

The Petah Tikva rabbinat refused to comment.

David Naveh, an activist in the Indian community, called Salomon's policy "an outrage" and that if he does not reconsider his decision, demonstrations and other forms of protest will follow.

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No hospital sanctions today

By JUDY SEGEL

There will be no sanctions by the Israel Medical Association today, but they are due to resume next week unless the Treasury carries out its signed commitment to finance 360 additional doctors' job slots to alleviate overwork by hospital physicians.

In addition, the physicians are continuing their new policy of discharging patients only when fully recovered, instead of sending them home prematurely. This has had the effect of increasing crowding in the wards, especially internal medicine departments, as an attempt to put pressure on the Treasury. Occupancy has already reached 150 percent in the internal medicine departments of Assaf Harofe, Kaplan, Soroka, and Wolfson hospitals, with many patients lying in the corridors.

IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar this week attacked Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman for "lack of credibility and hurting lower socio-economic groups." He was particularly critical of Neeman's statement that the National Health Insurance Law that went into effect in 1994 is "unreasonable" and that the government cannot cover the NIS 1.3 billion deficit produced by the "current version" of the law.

Blachar said that Neeman, who was "never elected," is misleading elected officials and members of the government. "When the public wakes up in the fact that the health system has been destroyed, the finance minister and his underlings may not be in their jobs... The structural changes that Neeman wants to introduce through the back door prove that he wants to cancel the law, reduce public funding of health care, and replace it with more citizens' payments."

As to the Treasury's claims about job slots, Blachar said the ministry "approved the job slots, but not the financing; the hospitals would have to pay for it if they wanted more doctors." "When Neeman returns to his fancy lawyer's office and continues to serve the top 1,000th socio-economic percentile of the population, the doctors will continue to treat patients, even in the hospitals' parking lots [if there is no room elsewhere]," he said.

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مكتبة القدس

Republicans sweep off-year US elections

By MARYN HENRY
and news agencies

Trumpeting victories in governors' races in Virginia and New Jersey, Republicans swept off-year voting and claimed bragging rights heading into next year's pivotal mid-term elections.

In New Jersey, Gov. Christie Whitman won a cliffhanger election in the marquee race of 1997, defeating a surprisingly tough Democratic opponent and overcoming disenchantment among conservative Republicans. A Republican easily retained custody of the sole House of Representatives seat at stake in Tuesday's elections in New York City's borough of Staten Island.

Republicans stretched their control of the Virginia statehouse with victories in the governor's race and two other statewide offices.

Republican Mayor Rudolph Giuliani marched to re-election in New York City, one of many mayors of both parties returned to office by satisfied voters.

"Great momentum!" crowed Republican Party chairman Jim Nicholson, predicting the anti-tax message that worked for the Republicans in Virginia could be replayed nationwide next year.

Democrats signaled they had gotten the message.

"You cannot allow Republicans to get the advantage

on taxes," said Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, chairman of the Democratic Governors Association. "You have to neutralize them on that issue."

Shut out in all the top races, members of President Bill Clinton's party were left to find solace anywhere they could. Party chairman Roy Romer called it a "great victory" that his party even came close against Whitman, who eked out a win, 47% to 46%, over challenger Jim McGreevey.

"When you see a race as close as we came in New Jersey, that hoists morale; it doesn't lessen it," Romer insisted.

The stakes for both parties will be far higher in 1998, when all 435 House and 34 Senate seats and 36 governorships will be at stake.

Giuliani beat his Democratic challenger, Ruth Messinger, with 57% of the vote. The second Republican in 60 years to be elected to a second term, he won all boroughs except the Bronx. Four years ago, he defeated the city's first black mayor, David Dinkins, by barely 50,000 votes.

A former federal prosecutor, Giuliani got 76% of the Jewish vote, 73% of the white vote, and 50% of the women's vote, according to exit polls. However, he lost the black and Hispanic vote. Turnout was described as "modest."

In his victory speech, Giuliani acknowledged the ethnic divi-

sions of the vote. "We have to do a better job of serving all of you. We have to reach out to all of you, and if we haven't, I apologize," he told the cheering crowd. "I'm sorry, and it is my personal commitment that we will try, endlessly and tirelessly, to bring all of you into the kind of success we have in this room."

The mayor's pledge for his next term was to drive drugs from the city.

In New York City, registered Democrats outnumbered Republicans 5-1. But Messinger, a liberal from the Upper West Side, was unable to carry her home turf, Manhattan, in part because Giuliani has strong credentials with liberals. He is an advocate of immigrants' rights, and in favor of gun control, gay rights, and affirmative action.

Giuliani's 57% was a crowning triumph, although somewhat less than the opinion polls had predicted. Giuliani did come close to the record win of legendary Republican mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, who captured 58.5% of the vote in his 1937 victory.

Mark Green retained his job as New York public advocate, heading the Orthodox Republican contender Jules Polonetsky by a wide margin. City Comptroller Alan Hevesi also was re-elected.

Elsewhere, Minneapolis and Pittsburgh rejected bids for funds for sports stadiums; Washington state junked tighter



New Jersey Governor Christie Whitman hugs her son Taylor, 18, while watching the election returns on Tuesday. Taylor voted for the first time in these elections.

gun restrictions, workplace protections for gays, and legalized marijuana for medicinal use; and Cincinnati's elephants may have

to move after voters sniffed at zoo spending.

The most-watched contest was in Oregon, where by a 60-40

margin voters have retained the right to physician-assisted suicide. Opponents of the 1994 law, the nation's first allowing doc-

tors to help terminally ill patients take their lives, have vowed to turn to the courts to block the measure.

US buys MiGs from Moldova 'to keep them away from Iran'

By DMITRY CHUBASHENKO

CHISINAU (Reuters) - Moldova said yesterday that its sale of 21 Russian-made MiG-29C warplanes to the United States would raise \$40 million for its state coffers.

Washington announced on Tuesday it had bought the advanced warplanes from Moldova and had brought them to the United States to keep them away from "rogue states, including Iran."

Defense Secretary William Cohen told reporters Iran had sought to obtain the modern fighters - capable of launching nuclear arms - from the former Soviet

state which is now one of Eastern Europe's young democracies.

"The state budget will gain \$40 million from the deal," Finance Minister Valeriu Chitan told reporters in the Moldovan capital Chisinau. He declined to say whether this was the total price paid for the 21 jets.

Moldova's Defense Minister Valeriu Pasat confirmed the sale, but categorically refused to name a price for the deal.

"All the MiGs are gone. Not a single plane remained in Moldova," Pasat said. Asked about the price of the deal, he said: "It is a state secret."

A high-ranking member of Moldova's

parliamentary committee on defense and security said that half the price of the deal - \$40 million - would be paid in cash and the rest would be paid in ammunition and other equipment.

After the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991 Moldova declared all Soviet arms its own property. They included 31 MiG-29 fighters of an air regiment based at Marculesti some 150 kilometers north of Chisinau. The regiment had been stationed in Marculesti since World War II.

Alexandru Gorgan, military adviser to former Moldovan President Mircea Snegur, said that in 1994 four planes had been sold to Yemen.

"If we had sold the planes at the very beginning, we would have got \$450-500 million," Gorgan said.

Due to lack of financing the condition of the planes had deteriorated over the years and were now "too dangerous to fly them," he said.

Gorgan, who was presidential military advisor till the end of 1996, said that "many foreigners, including Iranians, used to come to Moldova to negotiate the purchase of MiGs."

Cohen told a Pentagon news briefing on Tuesday that the United States had "credible information that a number of rogue states, including Iran, are attempt-

ing to buy available high-tech equipment and weapons in the aftermath of the break-up of the Soviet Union."

"These MiG aircraft were on their shopping list," he said.

Cohen praised Moldova's government for selling them to the United States and said the cash-strapped country would receive surplus US military equipment and humanitarian aid funds from the United States.

He said the United States would reassemble the MiGs and test them for capability, but that the main purpose in obtaining them was to keep them away from states which might use them to

threaten America and its allies.

In Moscow there was no immediate comment on the possible significance of the sale of the advanced, Russian-made planes to its old Cold War adversary.

"Moldova is a completely different state - what has this deal to do with Russia?" commented one Defense Ministry press spokesman.

The MiG-29 C variant can carry a weapons payload of up to 3,000 kilograms - allowing the planes to launch air-to-ground missiles which could, conceivably, be armed with nuclear warheads.

Historian: Papon was no small fish in Vichy regime

By NICOLAS MARINIE

BORDEAUX (AP) - Maurice Papon surprised the court in his war crimes trial yesterday by paying tribute to a "historian who argued that top French officials knew what fate awaited deported Jews."

During five hours of testimony, historian Marc-Olivier Baruch depicted the behavior of high-level French bureaucrats during the Nazi occupation and their role in turning over Jews to the Germans.

"I think a senior civil servant as of 1942 could not ignore the cruel fate that awaited a Jew who was handed over to his hereditary enemy," Baruch testified.

Baruch is the latest in a series of prominent historians called to testify about the Nazi occupation of France in Papon's trial.

A former post-war cabinet minister, Papon, 57, is charged with signing arrest orders that led to the deportation of 1,690 Jews, including 223 children, from Bordeaux.

Papon, who was a police supervisor in the Gironde region during the war, had described himself during Tuesday's court session as

a "low-level functionary." Baruch countered that, arguing Papon had exercised considerable authority and would not have suffered greatly if he had refused to apply anti-Jewish edicts.

Laws adopted in October 1940 deprived Jews of their right to teach, practice law or medicine, hold property, or be civil servants. Baruch cited the example of an education inspector who refused to explain anti-Jewish laws in a Paris high school - only to be transferred as a philosophy teacher in Versailles.

Baruch, who studied more than 30,000 documents to write his book, condemned what he called "the anesthesia of the conscious of civil servants" in following the dictates of Vichy.

After listening to Baruch's testimony, Papon said he was impressed by the "perceptiveness" of his research.

Speaking of the world Baruch described in his testimony, Papon went on to say: "I recognized, apart from the slight difference, the reality I experienced. I recognized in large part, the difficulties of administrative life during the occupation."

Papon also expressed appreciation for the fact that Baruch had taken into consideration the pressure of the occupier and its authority.

Before hearings reconvened, Nazi hunter Serge Klarsfeld broadcast a recording of French President Jacques Chirac's historic admission of the responsibility of French collaboration in the Holocaust.

The July 17, 1995 speech commemorated the 53rd anniversary of the single largest raid of Jews by the French police, and marked France's first official acknowledgment of Vichy's systematic persecution and deportation of Jews.

"That day, France committed the irreparable. Failing to keep its word, it handed over its citizens to their henchmen... and there is a collective wrong," Chirac said.

About 12,000 Jews, including women and children, were arrested in the July 16, 1942 dawn raid and transferred to the Velodrome d'Hiver, a winter cycling stadium.

But Chirac's position, welcomed by France's Jewish community, has come under fire from Gaullists testifying at Papon's trial, prompting several prominent Gaullist leaders to reject it outright.

Iran: Saudis seeking dialogue on oil prices

TEHRAN (Reuters) - Saudi Oil Minister Ali bin Ibrahim al-Naimi called yesterday for closer cooperation with Iran on oil prices, the official Iranian news agency IRNA said.

"The Saudi minister underlined the importance of the two countries' cooperation to keep oil prices at a fair level adding that his country seeks further negotiations with Iranian officials to expand cooperation specially in the oil sector," the agency said.

Naimi, speaking at a meeting in Riyadh with the Iranian ambassador to Saudi Arabia, said "that his country aims to address expansion of industrial cooperation with Iran during the upcoming OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) summit in Indonesia..." IRNA said.

Iran has yet to give its view on a proposal by Saudi Arabia to increase OPEC's output ceiling when ministers meet in Jakarta on November 26, an official from the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) said.

French truck strike turns violent

By CHRISTIAN CURTENELLE

PARIS (Reuters) - Violence erupted at the barricades of the French truckers' strike yesterday, threatening new efforts to end a gridlock that has paralyzed France and infuriated its European partners.

The atmosphere at the negotiating table was hopeful.

"This time, it looks like the bosses have finally understood what is happening at the roadblocks," Roger Poletti of the trade union Force Ouvriere (FO) told reporters after the first, 90-minute round of talks.

"The whole tone is now rather positive," chimed in Joel Le Coq of the CFDT union.

But Le Coq warned that the mood could sour if strikers came under attack from truckers seeking to break through strikers' roadblocks.

Violence erupted early yesterday when a dozen masked men charged a strikers' roadblock near Marseille, beating three

truckers with iron bars and forcing a passage through for about 12 refrigerator trucks.

One striker was rushed to hospital with serious head injuries from the attack at Vitrolles in southern France.

"If such attacks grow in number, there could be several weeks of strikes so we are making a call for reason. Let's not poison things," Le Coq said.

Traffic officials counted 174 roadblocks, with Normandy, the Marseille area and the Rhone Valley worst hit.

Gasoline shortages and boarding of foodstuffs were reported around the country.

Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn said the strike had not yet had an important economic effect.

While France's trading partners were concerned with gaining unimpeded access to markets through France, Paris stressed the right to strike.

European Transport Commissioner Neil Kinnock, former head of Britain's Labor

Party, clashed with Marc Bloedel, head of the pro-Socialist FO union.

Bloedel said that Kinnock had written him expressing special concern about roadblocks "which were a major obstacle to international exchanges."

Blondel tartly responded he was "delighted Mr. Kinnock was worried about the situation in France but his intervention seemed to portend a challenge to the right to strike..."

"Using such logic, one will soon conclude that trade union activity and even freedom of speech are infringements to economic liberalism," Bloedel said.

Spanish officials say some 2,000 Spanish trucks have been delayed, trapped by roadblocks or forced to take alternative routes. Spanish farmers have threatened a boycott of French goods if the strike continues.

An estimated 350,000 French truckers are involved in the strike. The unions are demanding an hourly wage for drivers,

who say they often put in long days on the road without full pay. Employers prefer a yearly or monthly salary.

Michel Caillaud of the FNCR union said after yesterday's talks that employers had offered a monthly scheme that would integrate hourly payments.

He predicted there would be an accord "in the coming hours... within 48 hours at the most."

Delegates from the Union of Transport Federations (UFT), the employers' association whose walkout last Friday crippled last-ditch wage talks, said they also wanted an agreement and thought negotiations at the Transport Ministry could go on late into the night.

"We want to negotiate and reach a durable solution. We are optimistic," said Jean-Paul Deneuvre of the FNTR, the main employers group in the UFT employers association.

The UFT represents 80 percent of road haulage firms.

Scientist: Parents can choose children's sex

LONDON (Reuters) - A French scientist said yesterday that he had devised a method to allow parents to choose the sex of their children.

Patrick Schoum, a researcher based in La Seyne sur Mer in southern France, has devised a natural gender selection program called Selmas which he says guarantees parents the baby of their choice - boy or girl.

"It is almost 100 percent effective," he told a news conference.

The Selmas Method is based on determining the alternating negative or positive polarity of the membrane of the woman's ovum, or egg. When the ovum is positively charged it attracts sperm with the 'x' (girl) chromosome and when it is negatively charged it attracts the 'y' (boy) chromosome.

Using sophisticated computer programming and inputting specific details about the woman's age, blood type and dates of first and last menstrual periods, Schoum claims he can produce a personalized calendar of a woman's ovum polarity giving details about the best time to try to conceive a girl or boy.

Although details of the Selmas method have not been published in any medical journal, tests in France

on 155 couples have proven successful in 153 cases, he said.

Information produced by Right Baby, which will market the computerized calendar in Britain, Africa and the Caribbean, claimed 75 mothers in the French trial achieved pregnancy in four months and nearly half were pregnant in six months.

The Selmas Method, which was launched in Europe yesterday, will be available worldwide.

Dr. George Hogewind, a consultant gynecologist at the London Gynecology and Fertility Center, said Schoum's research into the charging of the sperm and ovum is correct, but he argued that a trial of just 155 women was not a large enough study or representative.

"The second thing that concerns me is that of the 155 couples they studied, quite surprisingly none of them had a fertility problem and we know that infertility affects one in six couples," he said in a telephone interview.

"It's almost too good to be true," Hogewind said if Schoum's program works it will reduce the number of selective abortions and bring hope to thousands of families, but he called for a much larger study to prove it is effective.

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The rise and fall of Sobchak

The former St. Petersburg mayor is now a political has-been, a suspected criminal and a physical wreck, **Vanora Bennett** reports

ST. PETERSBURG — The fall of Anatoly Sobchak, a onetime democratic hero, has been as darkly fantastic as any of the classical Russian literature written in this imperial capital that he ran for five post-Soviet years.

In the glory days of August 1991, Sobchak and President Boris Yeltsin together rallied the Russian masses to stop a hard-line Soviet coup. But Sobchak, briefly considered a potential future president of Russia, gradually grew so unpopular here that he lost his mayor's job last summer.

Then things got worse. Now Sobchak is in a hospital bed, wearing a white gown and on an intravenous drip. He faces both a trial over allegations of large-scale corruption while in office and the surgeon's knife after suffering a heart attack during questioning in the city prosecutor's office.

His interrogation followed the launch in September of the latest of many Russian campaigns against top-level corruption. None of them has targeted politicians in favor in the Kremlin.

Sobchak, a tall, stooping former law professor, says he is being made a scapegoat.

"I find it amusing to be accused of being the mirror of Russian corruption," he said.

"There are other reasons for this," he said. "The main one is to distract attention from Moscow, the real center of corruption." The controversy over Sobchak shows how far Russian politics, now run by tough, pragmatic economists, has moved

from the intellectual democracy of the early 1990s that the former boss of St. Petersburg symbolizes. It also makes clear how Russians became disillusioned with that early democracy, seeing the movement's leaders as both inefficient and greedy, and why many are watching the downfall of Sobchak with grim satisfaction.

The list of accusations against him is long and detailed.

Sobchak freely admits that he let pop stars, political cronies and City Hall chauffeurs buy apartments from City Hall at cut-rate prices.

He says he had the right to be generous "not only to cultural figures and people who served their country and marked themselves with achievement, but lonely mothers, poorer people for a woman with triplets." Such gifts cost St. Petersburg \$2 million last year, says Alexander Shishlov, a parliamentary deputy and one of Sobchak's leading critics.

But what brought Sobchak before the prosecutor was a scandal closer to home. He is also accused of abusing his mayoral powers to attach an extra apartment to his own flat on a pretty St. Petersburg canal-side street, creating a 305-square-meter living space registered in his wife's name; that is a space beyond the wildest dreams of most people here, who live in tiny apartments up winding staircases. The money used to buy new housing for his former neighbors came from a real-estate company seeking concessions from the city, according to the daily *Izvestia*. The same company also gave Sobchak's niece another

apartment.

Another property in Sobchak's wife's name is allegedly a country mansion, complete with pointy fairy-tale tower, in the nearby village of Repino.

St. Petersburg is buzzing with still more rumors about possible Sobchak properties in Paris, Spain, Finland and the northern Russian province of Karelia, not to mention apartments in Moscow and bulging bank accounts in London.

But Lyudmila Narusova, Sobchak's wife and a parliamentary deputy, says the family property abroad consists of no more than .09 square meters of St. Petersburg, Florida, a symbolic gift from its mayor.

Politicians of Sobchak's own liberal-democratic ilk say he is being victimized. Gavril Popov, who was the mayor of Moscow in 1991, told *Komsomolskaya Pravda* newspaper that the authorities are behaving in a "very peculiar" way.

But, apart from veteran democratic politicians, hardly anyone is sympathetic to the conspiracy theory explanation.

Lawmaker Alexei Alexandrov, a lawyer, poured cold water on it, saying: "I don't think anyone's behind the Sobchak affair. He's a loner, not a team player. That's his tragedy. It's his egoism and ambition that have made him a host of enemies."

Whatever the verdict — if Sobchak's health improves enough so he can face trial — "democrat" has become a dirty word in St. Petersburg these days. The people of this improbably beautiful city of decaying palatial palaces, glamorous canals, tubercular fogs and poisoned water are fed up with Sobchak for neglecting their home.

St. Petersburg stayed poor and uncomfortable after the Soviet collapse, while the rival city of Moscow, which people here once despised, got rich under capitalism. Voters are pleased that, since June, they at last have a more efficient politician running their city.

Under Mayor Vladimir Yakovlev, traffic has been disrupted by a frenzy of road work. Trampolines have been tipped up and potholed streets resurfaced. For the first time in years, garbage is being collected regularly.

"Of course I voted for Sobchak. He represented everything I believed in, when democracy was the slogan

on everyone's lips," said academic Konstantin Bogdanov, 34. "But he did nothing for the city. I like feeling now that the city's beginning to work again. I'm beginning to realize you need someone efficient in charge — actions, not just words."

If anything does make people in St. Petersburg feel a twinge of sympathy for Sobchak, it is the extraordinary circumstances in which he fell ill October 3, an episode in the tradition of the city's 19th-century writers Alexander Pushkin and Nikolai Gogol.

Russia's classical literature heroes are little men: youths pursued through freak floods by nightmarish bronze czars on horseback; or down-trodden bureaucrats dying while their empty overcoats carry on, writing meaningless chits at their desks. Compassion for these fictional ancestors makes city people here look kindly on any underdog being crushed by authority.

In Sobchak's case, an ambulance was called to the prosecutor's office to take him to the hospital only after his wife rushed in to save her husband from what she called "communists and gestapo." Narusova blamed her husband's heart trouble on "about 10" riot police, who she said had muscled her husband to the prosecutor's office. But officials there said they were forced to bring Sobchak in because he had ignored 12 earlier invitations to appear voluntarily.

There is an even more literary feel about the man running the commission investigating the Sobchak's property privatizations. Yuri Shutorov is far from neutral about his former boss, who, he says, fired him from City Hall and jailed him on trumped-up charges ranging from setting fire to a hotel to attempting the assassination of the president of Azerbaijan.

Shutorov has written a series of malicious books about Sobchak, full of unflattering photos of his hate object. One title, *The Heart of Sobchak*, is another literary allusion, this time to a novella by 1930s author Mikhail Bulgakov, "Heart of a Dog."

"True, I wouldn't vote for Sobchak now," reflected student Marina Zimina, 24. "But I do feel sorry for him. Whatever he did, or didn't do, it seems as though the whole establishment has got together to pick on him."

Los Angeles Times

Virgin sightings increase in Mexico

By DAVID LUNN

JALCOMULCO, Mexico — The Vatican believes the Virgin Mary has appeared only a handful of times in the 2,000 years since her son was crucified, but many Catholics in Mexico believe she turns up nearly every day.

La Virgen de Guadalupe, as she is known here, is said to appear "miraculously" in ordinary objects from tree trunks to stove-tops, from the grimy floor of Mexico City's subway to the fruit-laden fields next to this village in eastern Mexico.

The images are usually the result of a natural event — a water stain on the floor, for example — but bear a resemblance to the shrouded virgin's outline. Some are so similar it is downright spooky. In the past few months, virgin sightings have multiplied like enchiladas at a Mexican food fair. People have seen her image in everything from the dented fender of a '74 Chevy to a split clove of garlic.

Amando Contreras Torres, a diminutive 37-year-old peasant, recently wrapped some mamey, a fleshy fruit similar to mango, in newspaper and packed them in a crate to ripen. When he unpacked the fruit a week later, the virgin's image was printed on a sheet of the newspaper in what looked like ink.

"It wasn't there when he packed the fruit," swore his wife Maria Antonia Xtila, who said her husband would not talk to anyone publicly about the miracle. The family said it had tried to keep the event secret but a carpenter they hired to build a wooden frame for the image told the rest of the village, in eastern Veracruz state.

Hundreds of impoverished local peasants, including some who walked more than 10 hours from nearby towns, lined up on a recent Sunday to pay homage at a makeshift shrine for the image at Contreras's home. Locals said a similar crowd had gathered nearly every day for two months.

Virgin miracles are not limited to remote villages. Two children noticed in June that a brown-colored water stain on the floor of Mexico City's crowded Hidalgo metro station looked like the virgin. Within days, as word spread, thousands of faithful turned out to see the apparition, which officials said came from a leaky

drainage pipe under the tiled floor.

The crowd at the station grew so thick that officials were forced to remove the section of tile containing the image and place it in a shrine outside. A ceremony was held and a priest blessed the stain.

Built into an enclave of simple blue tile, it draws a daily crowd of believers who wait in line to touch it and pray. A nearby vendor sells red roses for use as an offering and another does a brisk business selling soft drinks.

In the nearby neighborhood of Condesa, fresh flowers are placed almost daily near what looks like an outline of the virgin on a tree that lost a branch. Sightings of the virgin in Mexico began in 1531, when she is said to have appeared to an Indian named Juan Diego on a hill just outside Mexico City, stamping her image on his cloak and in Mexico's history. The apparition, on a sacred hill that was home to an important Aztec goddess and was rich in Indian lore, was a seminal event in the Spanish conquest of much of the Americas.

It was an event that brought together two religions and two cultures continents apart. Within 10 years of the sighting, some nine million Aztecs had taken the Catholic faith of their conquerors, weaving it subtly with traditional customs of polytheism and idol worship.

Modern-day sightings may have their roots in Mexico's recent economic crisis, which forced many out of their jobs and created an almost existential despair among normally upbeat Mexicans.

"People in times of need turn to what they know and trust. Here the Virgin is an everyday, essential part of who Mexicans are as a people and as individuals," says Homero Aridjis, a poet and commentator.

Last year, the priest in charge of the basilica where the virgin appeared more than 400 years ago was forced to step down after he reportedly said the miracle may never have taken place but was important nonetheless because it propagated Catholicism.

Whether the virgin actually appeared or was a myth intended to help Indians accept a new religion, Catholic priests today reap what their predecessors sowed. (Reuters)

"At Basel, I Founded the Jewish State"

Theodor Herzl

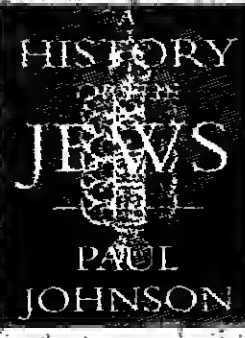
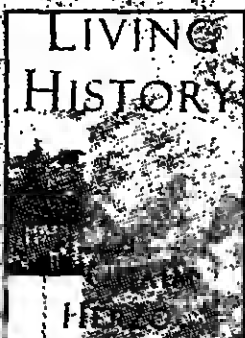
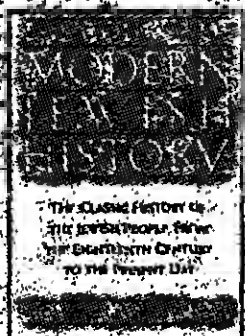
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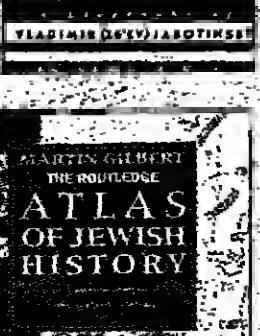
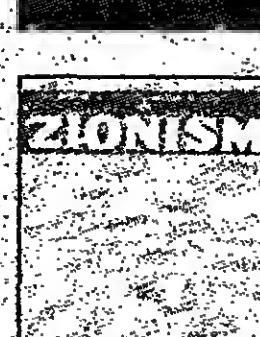
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مكتبة القدس

Out of the shade and into the light

By Laura Lippman

Like T.S. Eliot's *Madame Sosostris*, Doris Lessing has a cold. Unlike *Madame Sosostris*, though, this does not imply her powers are diminished. Far from it. Now 78, she is razor-sharp, her mind sorting through the questions asked of her like a woman thumping melons in a grocery store. Some apparently are a bit mushy to her taste, others not quite ripe.

Small in stature, Lessing is a towering figure in 20th century letters — the author of a book, *The Golden Notebook*, that has been known as a classic almost since it appeared 35 years ago. "Generally known as my best novel," she writes in *Walking in the Shade* (HarperCollins, \$27.50), the just-published second volume of her memoirs. "Perhaps it is, but I have my own ideas." Does she ever. Lessing's mind virtually teems with ideas, and she has been known to intimidate veteran interviewers. They call her publicist in advance, nervous and deferential, perhaps because they have read in *Shade* her assessment of another journalist's efforts: "Shallow and superficial." What prompted that criticism?

"She [the reporter] complained my heels were too high. I thought, 'What was this doing in an article?' They were these shoes, do you consider them too high?" The heel is a stacked one, perhaps two inches. "Well, then," she sniffs. "OK, so she dislikes the process of promoting books and even disdains the people who buy books because of the requisite newspaper profiles. Then surely this limited tour of New York, Boston and Chicago must be pure torture for her. Wrong again."

"Some of my best friends are journalists," she demurs. And she is polite in conversation, dryly humorous, even kind. "Doddie is a good little baba," she says of herself in her first memoir, *Under My Skin*, about her childhood in Southern Rhodesia.

It's a motif repeated in *Walking in the Shade*, when Lessing remembers dutifully writing a note of gratitude to Somerset Maugham when she won a literary prize named for him. The award helped her out at a time when her finances were precarious.

"I got a grudging letter back," she writes, "saying that, first, he had nothing to do with the choosing of the prize winners and, two, he had never read anything I had written. ... This letter from Maugham hurt. It was meant to. But I owed him a roof over my head."

"I could have easily entitled this book 'A Roof Over My Head,'" she muses. The phrase is a constant refrain in *Walking in the Shade*, an account of Lessing's early years in London, from 1949 to 1962.

Instead, she once again turned to popular music for her inspiration. (*Under My Skin* came from Cole Porter, while *Walking in the Shade* recasts a line from "The Sunny Side of the Street" — "I used to walk in the shade. ...")



Doris Lessing

(Sally Soames)

The book and her memories are divided among her several addresses. And for many of these years, she eschewed the sunny side.

"I did at one point see that I was choosing unhappiness rather than happiness and I decided to stop that," she says.

"*Walking in the Shade* describes the preference for choosing — you know, I had two men, both of whom were extremely damaged men, one by war and one socially." A pause. "Well, I needn't have done that." But this second volume of her memoirs is about so much more than Lessing's romances. There are her longtime ties to the Communist Party, which she came to disavow; the transformation of post-World War II London; life as a single parent; and, always, her work. For although Lessing is best known for *The Golden Notebook*, whose publication comes toward the end of *Walking in the Shade*, she has produced a vast body of work, which includes novels, science fiction, short stories, operas and nonfiction. "The statesmanlike length of [her memoir] is probably just-

tified by the extraordinary variety of her achievements, her exceptional memory and her facility as a writer," Frank Kermode wrote in *The New York Times Book Review*. However, he also found "passages where you feel she is just typing on to complete a stint, and perhaps not looking it over later." *Shade* begins in 1949, when Lessing arrived in London with little more than her son, Peter, and a manuscript, *The Grass is Singing*. Twice divorced, she had left the two children from her first marriage behind in Africa. Some reviewers were surprised at how little attention she paid to this episode in *Under My Skin*, but she shrugs it off again in *Walking in the Shade* when she writes about the difficult end of a love affair.

"It seemed to me obvious that I was bound to be unhappy, and any intelligent reader would understand that without ritual beatings of the breast," she writes. "... There is no one who hasn't suffered over love at some time, and so it should be enough to say that being thrown over by this man was bad for me. It was the worst." Conversely, she doesn't dwell on the details of her domestic routine — up at 5 every morning with Peter, a "non-sleeper" — because she says only a single mother can understand what she was going through. "You know, they didn't even have the word [single mother] then," she says, amused as always by the vicissitudes of language.

Literary criticism as practiced by the Communist Party prepared her for political correctness; she once wrote an essay in which she said it didn't seem coincidental that PC thinking came into vogue after communism collapsed. *The Golden Notebook* is often described as a feminist classic, but Lessing washed her hands of all "isms" long ago.

"I am morally afraid of them," she says. "I have lived through 'isms' by the dozens, some of them lethal." She settles now instead for reduced expectations — efficient, non-corrupt governments — which still seem dauntingly high when marched against reality.

Her days in London sound full. Up at 6:30, she exercises and does "all the things I have to do" before she settles in to write at 8.

In the afternoons, she takes long walks and drops in at neighborhood cafes (the quality of coffee in London is an ongoing preoccupation in *Shade*). Theater remains a passion, and she even has a few television shows of which she approves, despite her assertion that TV is "the road in the kitchen." And, always, there are books to be read. "Reproachful piles of reading," is how she describes it. As for her own writing, she says the next book will be an old-fashioned adventure.

There will not be, she says emphatically, a third volume of memoirs.

"Impossible," she decrees, having changed names and omitted some unflattering stories from volume two. "I can't write that. Either I have to say, 'If I write the third, I'm putting nothing personal in there ... or I could write a book just about literary events, but it wouldn't interest me much.'"

(The Baltimore Sun)

Wit and the supernatural

THE CLAIRVOYANT by Marian Thurm. Cambridge, MA, Zoland Books. 262 pp. \$23.95.

By Leslie Cohen

Victor Mackenzie is a highly skilled professional who loves his work, particularly "the privilege of opening up people's lives, each of them like a novel full of large and small dramas." A psychoanalyst? Close, but not quite. The cynical reader — like several of Victor's clients — may balk, initially, at taking a clairvoyant's troubles seriously. But (again, like several of Victor's clients) she will soon suspend disbelief because of the skillful handling of the subject. Marian Thurm writes with the perfect balance of sophisticated New York wit and matter-of-fact acceptance of the supernatural.

Thurm wags the barbed tongue of her humor at everyone and everything. Rabbis, for starters. One of the major characters tells us, "I don't mean to sound arrogant, but I seem to be the rabbi of choice for people who're turned off by rabbis." Sure he is — such an affable fellow, this guy makes house calls! Even a treif Jew like me raises an eyebrow at this rabbi who eats pepperoni pizza and happily arranges the bar mitzva of a boy with a Jewish father and a Baptist (but not practicing) mother.

Mixed marriages are another foil for Thurm's wry sense of humor.

Lucy (the black mother of the bar mitzva boy) rebels at the idea of her son's bar mitzva having a theme. She sarcastically counterproposes that the theme be "interacial," with black tablecloths, white napkins and each guest seated next to someone of the opposite color. Scatterbrained Shirley, the pepperoni-pizza-rabbi's ex-wife (what could be better than the rabbi's wife?), embraces the idea wholeheartedly. But she worries that they might not be able to get a "bittersweet chocolate likeness of Martin Luther King Jr.'s profile, filled with white chocolate mousse," for dessert. Afterwards, best friend Katha commiserates with Lucy, asking, "How dumb could she be, thinking you'd hand out chocolate Martin Luther Kings with white chocolate mousse filling? Anyone would know the white chocolate filling is so politically incorrect!" Manipulative mothers are another target for Thurm's black humor.

Victor's long-dead mother sends her son a divine guardian. In floats Murray the ghost (and former owner of a candy store that Victor used to frequent as a child) to intercede on Mrs. Mackenzie's behalf. Despite the fact that Victor is enjoying a successful career, Mom thinks it's not too late for him to start medical school. When Murray is unable to persuade Victor, he starts nagging his ward to get married and produce grandchildren. The conversations between Victor and Murray are laced with snide remarks. When Murray refuses to desist, Victor tries to shoot him away by insulting him. He tells Murray, "Maybe I do belong in the psych ward at Bellevue" for taking advice from a ghost "who's been wearing the same pair of pajamas for thirty-three years." Trust Murray to show up in those same pajamas at the bar mitzva.

Poor Victor! Despite his clairvoyance, he can't see where his love life is going. Just like everybody else — "We're all mere mortals," he insists — Victor longs to settle down with Ms. Right. But women are afraid to fall in love with him; they are outraged at the inevitability of being spied upon by his divine guardian spirit, and frightened by the prospect of bearing children who will share his uncomfortable gift. When Lucy's friend Katha falls in love with him, Victor is wary. He finally goes to another clairvoyant for advice.

The meeting of the clairvoyants is one of the book's humorous high points. Thurm tries to demolish the stereotypes about clairvoyants, while poking fun at the foibles of her psychic characters. Before reading his cards, Lorraine assures Victor that she would be terrified to consult another clairvoyant herself. When she rattles off a list of the important people in Victor's life, she gets stuck on his girlfriend's name. "Katharine, Kathleen, Kathy... damn, what kind of name is this — I can't get it," she complains. Victor tells her the name is Katha, to which she simply replies, "Never heard of it," and continues spouting off predictions — until Victor is so jarred that he begs her to stop.

The inevitable question, when reading a book about a clairvoyant, is: do we take this seriously, or don't we? I didn't change my initial beliefs about clairvoyants, and you probably won't either. But that's not the point. I suggest the reader skip the inquisition and simply enjoy a well-written book. It's an interesting story, peopled by credible characters. Whether or not one accepts the role of the ghosts in their lives is immaterial. The writing is as lucid as a clairvoyant should be.

Keeping the heart alive

THE MIRROR by Lynn Freed. New York, Crown. 219 pp. \$21.

By Heller McAlpin

The tough, feisty, satirical of Lynn Freed's novel maintains an unusually objective perspective on herself throughout her long life.

Although no stranger to men, she prefers to see herself reflected in mirrors rather than through the eyes of her sometimes admiring, sometimes dominating, lovers. *The Mirror* is an invitingly simple narrative by an author who has written two previous novels, *The Bungalow* and *Home Ground*, also set in her native South Africa.

It is prettily packaged as a memoir with bordered pages and old sepia photographs and covers the life of Agnes La Grange from the time she leaves London's East End as a beautiful 17-year-old in 1920. She heads to Durban, South Africa, where she hopes to make something of herself on her own uncon-

ventional terms.

Agnes is a defiantly independent woman at a time when the principal route for betterment open to women — marriage — didn't allow for independence. She has a hearty appetite for sex, though she is loath to use even this weapon in a woman's arsenal for gain. Agnes La Grange is self-made right down to her name: "La" is from a poster she once saw advertising "La Boheme," and "Grange" is from her lowly birthplace. She comes to South Africa to serve as housekeeper to a man she refers to, in her typical confrontational manner, only as "the Old Jew." Living with him are his 12-year-old daughter, Sarah, and his dying wife. But Agnes has higher aspirations. As she sharply puts it, "I hadn't come all this way to empty potlucks." The old man seduces her in short order by playing into her narcissistic sexuality in front of the full-length mirror he sends up to her room. He seems to intuit that Agnes is most comfortable when she can consider her life from a remove. It's as if

the ability to watch her own reflection as she interacts with her suitor gives her the distance necessary to maintain her self-perspective. When she becomes pregnant, he installs her in the Railway Hotel, which she manages to buy by getting the old man to "pay up ... his use" of her all at once.

And there she is, gainfully employed, her own keeper, with no man to "bend" her to his will, when along comes the baby, a dark, birdlike creature who takes after her father. "I might have known I would not be a natural mother," Agnes comments unthinkingly. "The whole thing felt like another form of service." She reluctantly accepts the parenting assistance and eventually the hand of the dotting newspaperman who occupies the room next to hers at the hotel. She gives the child the name he suggests, Allegra, along with Leah, the name "the old Jew" pronounces on his only visit to the baby. Agnes knows this was his deceased wife's name, but she claps it on her daughter despite her

misgivings. There was no love lost between her and her dying mistress.

It is no surprise that Agnes is a cold and impatient mother, but what is surprising is her candor in relaying her maternal shortcomings with a minimum of compunction. Her story tracks the consequences of her coldness for her musically gifted and emotionally stunted daughter, who comes to repeat her mother's history to an alarming degree. When Leah bears her own daughter out of wedlock with her half-sister Sarah's husband, she abandons the child to her mother in order to pursue her vocal career in England. Agnes discovers a new, deep kind of love with this granddaughter, Bess, before Bess, too, sets off to make her way in the world.

But the deepest fulfillment in Agnes's life is neither from this relationship nor the numerous liaisons she forms with men who are referred to only by their professions — the hunter, the banker. Agnes finds her greatest satisfac-

tion in her work — running a succession of hotels through the depths of the Depression and the boom years of war, building a fortune by dint of concentrated labor and thrifty living.

The Mirror is as much a paean to the importance of work and independence as it is a social commentary on women's restricted options. "And what I did want indeed but to be mastered myself and yet mistress of myself at the same time?" Agnes asks when considering the rub between her desire for excitement, adventure and love and her unwillingness to trade her independence for security like most women.

She concludes somewhat bleakly, "It was hopeless." The author strings the reader along by starting sentence after sentence with the word "And," and the result is prose that is incantatory in its simplicity. Freed has written an undemanding yet subtle little feminist book about the extraordinary demands of keeping "the heart alive."

(Newsday)

BOOK BYTES

India's 50th year of independence from British rule has occasioned a slew of books. Snakes and Ladders: Glimpses of Modern India (Doubleday/Talce), a collection of essays by Gita Mehta, has been doing well. Mehta, author of seven fiction and non-fiction books, said about this work: "India is a place where worlds are colliding with huge velocity: we're putting satellites into space, and we have bullock carts.... I thought the only way I could describe that collision was anecdotally, by taking snapshots, as it were." Mehta, whose name Gita means "as in a song of freedom," was born in Delhi in 1943. Three weeks later the English arrested her father. At the age of three, Mehta was placed in a boarding school, because "my mother was racing around to get my father out of jail." Her novel *Raj*, tracing the 50 years prior to Indian independence, brought her notoriety in 1989, although she published her first book in 1979. She now lives in Manhattan with her publishing executive husband Sonny Mehta, but all her books are rooted in India. Mehta declares, "You stand on geography as a writer. My heart is in India — it's home — so when I'm there I don't write, I just let it all seep in through my pores."

YOU'RE NEVER too old to write a block-busting bestseller, or earn a million dollars. A 98-year-old grandmother from Manhattan, Kansas, wrote her memoirs in an adult education class taught by a farmer and teacher, Charley Kempthorne. *Any Given Day: The Life and Times of Jessie Lee Brown Foveaux* is the diary of a woman's life and struggles while married to an abusive alcoholic with whom she had eight children. Kempthorne submitted an article on Foveaux to

the *Wall Street Journal*, and the paper ran the story as a front-page feature last March. The publicity released a flood of inquiries from publishers, agents, and TV and movie producers, though none had read a word of the manuscript. The *Journal* ran a second Page One story on the clamor to purchase the memoir.

The property was auctioned off, and Warner Books "won" with a payout of \$1.1 million. Not bad for a first-time author two years shy of her 100th birthday.

TOP WRITERS earn big bucks, but they also give freely to good causes. Names like Sidney Sheldon, John Grisham, Michael Crichton, Mary Higgins Clark and Barbara Taylor Bradford, for instance, were among the first to donate \$10,000 each to Literacy Partners, Inc. The money went to the new Writers for Readers Learning Center in New York. Each \$10,000 collected underwrites the cost of teaching reading and writing skills to one illiterate adult per year.

FANTASY IS fiction's unrecognized genre, that is as far as the critics are concerned. For the readers, it's a different story. Fantasy writers like David Gemmell sell well (as do Terry Pratchett, and that all-time favorite, J.R.R. Tolkien). Gemmell's latest entry, *Winter Warriors* (Bantam), gave rise to a rare interview for a fantasy author in *The Bookseller*.

Gemmell sees stories of tall heroes with sword and as inspiring heroism. He cites one of his readers who, while walking his dog, saved a woman from a violent attack. The reader's letter explained that his swift action was directly influenced by the Gemmell fantasy book he was reading at the time.

David Brunner

The New York Times

BESTSELLERS

HARDCOVER Fiction

1. Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier. (Atlantic Monthly \$24.) A wounded Confederate soldier journeys home to meet an old love.
2. Violin by Ann Rice (Knopf \$25.95.) From 19th-century Vienna to present-day New Orleans; a demonic fiddler preys upon a woman who loves his music.
3. The Matarese Countdown by Robert Ludlum. (Bantam \$27.50.) A CIA officer struggles to thwart the return of an international cabal.
4. Flood Tide by Clive Cussler. (Simon & Schuster \$26.) Dirk Pitt pursues a Chinese smuggler.
5. The Angel of Darkness by Caleb Carr. (Random House \$25.95.) Dr. Kresler goes after a kidnapper in 1897 Manhattan.
6. The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy. (Random House \$23.) Booker prize-winner.
7. Underworld by Don DeLillo. (Scribner \$27.50.) American life as lived during the past 50 years.
8. The Best Laid Plans by Sidney Sheldon. (Morrow \$25.) The relationship between a powerful governor and a woman determined to break revenge.
9. 10 Lb. Penalty by Dick Francis. (Putnam \$24.95.) A politician's career is imperiled by actions taken by his enemies against his son, a one-time amateur jockey.
10. The Letter by Richard Paul Evans. (Simon & Schuster \$15.95.) In the last volume of the "Christmas Box" trilogy, the Parker family recovers from its grief over the loss of a daughter.

HARDCOVER Non-fiction

1. Diane: Her True Story — In Her Own Words by Andrew Morton. (Simon & Schuster \$22.95.) An updated, expanded version of the 1992 bestseller.
2. The Royals by Kitty Kelley. (Warner \$27.) Gossip about the House of Windsor.
3. Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt. (Scribner \$24.) An Irish-American recalls his childhood amid the miseries of Limerick.
4. The Man Who Listens to Horses by Morley Roberts. (Random House \$23.) The memoirs of a horse trainer.
5. Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil by John Berendt. (Random House \$23.) The mysterious death of a young man in Savannah, Ga.
6. Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer. (Villard \$24.95.) An account of the ascent of Mount Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
7. Diane: A Tribute to the People's Princess by Peter Donnelly. (Corgias Books/Running Press \$12.95.) The life of the Princess of Wales.
8. Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom. (Doubleday \$19.95.) A sports writer tells of his weekly visits to his old college mentor.
9. Wait Till Next Year by Doris Kearns Goodwin. (Simon & Schuster \$25.) Recollections of a '50s girlfriend in the orbit of the Brooklyn Dodgers.
10. Conversations with God: Book 1 by Neale Donald Walsch. (Putnam \$19.95.) Questions of life and love, good and evil, guilt and sin.

PAPERBACK Fiction

1. Airtame by Michael Crichton. (Ballantine \$7.99.) A young woman probes a plane's near disaster on its way from Hong Kong to Denver.
2. Jack & Jill by James Patterson. (Warner Vision \$7.50.) Alex Cross on the trail of serial killers in Washington.
3. My Gal Sunday by Mary Higgins Clark. (Pocket \$6.99.) An ex-president and his wife investigate four crimes.
4. The Clinic by Jonathan Kellerman. (Bantam \$6.99.) Alex Delaware investigates the murder of a woman who wrote a bestselling indictment of men.
5. The MacGregor Brides by Nora Roberts. (Silhouette \$6.99.) A patriarch finds three young men to marry his granddaughters.
6. A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines. (Vintage \$12.) In 1948, a bond is forged between two black men — one a teacher, the other on death row for murder.
7. Kiss the Girls by James Patterson. (Warner \$6.99.) Police detective Alex Cross pursues a serial killer and his niece's kidnapper.
8. Blood and Honor by W.E.B. Griffin. (Love \$7.50.) In Buenos Aires in 1943, three Americans cope with German efforts to provide for a postwar Reich.
9. This Year It Will Be Different by Maeve Binchy. (Dell \$6.99.) Fifteen stories about contemporary families at Christmastime.
10. Abuse of Power by Nancy Taylor Rosenberg. (Signet \$6.99.) A police officer is framed for a shooting after she exposes rogue cops.

PAPERBACK Non-fiction

1. Diane: Her True Story by Andrew Morton. (Pocket \$7.50.) The first 30 years of the Princess of Wales.
2. The Color of Water by James McBride. (Riverhead \$12.) A black writer and musician recalls growing up with his white mother in Brooklyn.
3. Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes. (Broadway \$13.) A celebration of the Italian countryside by a poet.
4. Hanson by Jill Matthews. (Archway/Pocket \$3.99.) The story of the pop-rock group.
5. Undaunted Courage by Stephen E. Ambrose. (Touchstone/S&S \$16.) The story of how Thomas Jefferson sponsored Lewis and Clark.
6. Seven Years in Tibet by Heinrich Harrer. (Bantam/Putnam \$13.95.) An Austrian mountaineer recounts his adventures in the 1940s.
7. Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday \$12.95.) A young man's obsession with the wilderness ends tragically in Alaska.
8. A Civil Action by Jonathan Harr. (Vintage \$13.) Householders sue industrial polluters.
9. Diane: Her New Life by Andrew Morton. (Pocket \$7.50.) The career of the Princess of Wales following the end of her marriage.
10. Reviving Ophelia by Mary Pipher. (Ballantine \$12.50.) The everyday dangers that beset teenage girls.

PAPERBACK Miscellaneous

1. Don't Sweat the Small Stuff ... and It's All Small Stuff by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion \$8.95.) How to enjoy life much more and contribute to the world we live in.
2. Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen and Kimberly Kibbey. (Health Communications \$12.95.) Inspiration.
3. Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution by Robert C. Atkins. (Avon \$6.50.) Ways to lose weight and achieve a healthy body.
4. Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, Jennifer Read Hawthorne, and Marcia Shinnott. (Health Communications \$12.95.) Inspiration.

HARDCOVER Miscellaneous

1. Don't Worry, Make Money by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion \$15.95.) Ways to achieve a more enjoyable and profitable life.
2. Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus by John Gray. (HarperCollins \$25.) Improving communication and relationships.
3. Simple Abundance by Sarah Ban Breathnach. (Warner \$17.95.) Advice for women seeking to improve the way they look at themselves.
4. Make the Connection by Bob Greene and Oprah Winfrey. (Hyperion \$18.95.) Ways to improve one's life mentally and physically.

Chelsea heavy favorite against Tromso today

BONN (Reuters) - Despite a shock 3-2 win in the blizzard-hit home leg, Norwegian lightweights Tromso have little hope of depriving Chelsea of a third round appearance today.

"If I'm to be quite honest I think that our chances are very small," Tromso coach Haakan Sandberg said of his side's visit to Stamford Bridge. "We'll get through with a draw but I think it's going to be hard for us."

Yet Tromso, after their surprising victory two weeks ago, seem to be in good form heading into the second leg, having avoided relegation from Norway's elite division at the weekend with a 6-1 aggregate win over first division Elfk-Tonsberg.

Chelsea, meanwhile, used goals from Mark Hughes and Tore Andre Flo to win 2-0 at Aston Villa and move up to fourth in the Premier League, six points behind Manchester United but with a game in hand.

VfB Stuttgart, regarded as Chelsea's most dangerous rivals for the title, have little to fear after flooring Germinal Ekeren 4-0 in Belgium in the first leg with Fredi Bobic and Jonathan-Akporbie scoring a double each.

"On paper reaching the third round is a lost cause," said defender Mike Verstraeten, Ekeren's only Belgian international, who will be suspended.

"But they should not lose heart," he added of his teammates. "It is not a practice game and Germinal should show that they can give the Germans a hard time."

Ambitious Stuttgart, still without inspirational Bulgarian midfielder Krassimir Balakova, nursing a sore thigh muscle, could only manage a dull goalless draw at home to UEFA Cup winners Schalke 04 in the Bundesliga on Saturday.

Real Betis, who visit FC Copenhagen with their confidence boosted by a 2-0 win at home,

NEWCASTLE (AP) - PSV Eindhoven got a first-half goal from Luc Nilis to beat Newcastle 2-0 yesterday in the Champions League, a loss that all but eliminated the English side from any chance of making the quarterfinals.

The victory kept PSV in second place in Group C behind Dynamo Kiev with seven points to 10 for Newcastle.

PSV, with just one loss in 17 games, dominated the early play as Newcastle took 20 minutes to get its first shot in a ragged beginning.

Belgian international Nilis broke through in the 34th minute to give the Dutch champions a 1-0 lead on a one-two pass from teammate Gilles De Bilde as Nilis beat Newcastle goalkeeper Shay Given from 12 meters.

De Bilde scored in the final minute to make it 2-0.

FC Barcelona (Spain) 0
Dynamo Kiev (Ukraine) 4

Andriy Shevchenko scored a hat-trick on two high-flying headers and converted a penalty to humble Spanish giant Barcelona 4-0 in the Champions League.

With this defeat, Barcelona has completely lost any hopes of being in the Champion's League.

Dynamo had already beaten Barcelona 4-0 two weeks ago.

Shevchenko gave Dynamo Kiev an early lead just eight minutes into the game and stunned the crowd of 65,000 at Camp Nou Stadium.

The 21-year-old Russian International got his second in the 31st minute as he leaped high and headed in from the penalty mark and a perfect pass from Andriy Husio. He got the third on a penalty in the 43th.

Things went worse for the Spanish team, European Champion in 1992 and three times a UEFA Cup Champion, when the referee showed the red card to defender Sergi Barjuan for touching the ball with his hand in the second-half's first minute.

Taking advantage of Barcelona's inferiority in play and players, Serhiy Rebrov scored Dynamo's fourth in the 75th after stealing a

Newcastle falls, United wins



FANCY FOOTWORK - Feyenoord Rotterdam striker Patricio Graf (left) fights for the ball with Manchester United defender Henning Berg during their match yesterday.

ball from Barcelona's defender Albert Ferrer.

It's Barcelona's biggest defeat in a Europe Championship since 1980.

Group A
Galatasaray 2, Sparta Prague 0
Scorers: Iyagay Kerimoglu 57, 84.

Group B
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Scorers: Feyenoord - Igor Korneev 84, Manchester United - Andy Cole 30, 43, 73

Group C
Barcelona 0, Dynamo Kiev 4
Scorers: Andriy Shevchenko 9, 32, 44pen, Sergei Rebrov 77

Group D
Newcastle United 0, PSV Eindhoven 2
Scorers: Luc Nilis 33, Gilles De Bilde 90

Group E
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group F
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group G
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group H
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group I
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group J
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group K
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group L
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group M
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group N
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group O
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Group P
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Group Q
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Group R
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Group S
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Group T
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Group U
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Group V
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group W
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group X
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group Y
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Group Z
Feyenoord 1, Manchester United 3

Hap. Jerusalem out to change Euro fortunes

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

New Hapoel Jerusalem coach Eddy Binbaum hopefully packed a lot of chalk and blackboards for tonight's EuroLeague matchup vs. Kinder Bologna (Channel 5, tape delay, 23:30). The game figures to be little more than a learning experience for Binbaum's club, as they take on one of the toughest teams in Europe in an effort to improve on their own dismal 1-4 EuroLeague mark.

Last time the two clubs met, in Jerusalem, Kinder walked off with an easy 81-63 victory, thanks to the outstanding play of point guard Antoine Rigaudeau, a member of the French national squad. Rigaudeau absolutely bedeviled the Jerusalem backcourt, nailing three pointers or streaking down the court as he led the potent Kinder break. Jerusalem hasn't been the only ones to feel his wrath - Rigaudeau is averaging 15.8 points per game, four assists, and is 10-25 (40 percent) from three-point land.

Sasha Danilovic also gave Hapoel fits. The former Miami Heat forward showed why he's considered such a fine all-around player with a typical line that night: 15 points, nine rebounds and nine assists. Danilovic is another reason why Kinder is not only atop Group C, but also lead the Italian league. He's averaging 18.8

ppg. His only weakness so far has been his three-point shooting - just 6-20.

A surprise factor in the victory at Malha was John Amaechi, a British citizen who also played in the NBA. Despite not being considered an offensive threat, he contributed scoring off the bench, and is averaging 8.3 a game. Whoa veteran starting center Zoran Savic gets in trouble, Amaechi fills the gap admirably.

Alessandro Abbis is the shooting guard for Kinder, and is a red-hot five of six from beyond the arc, meaning the Italians, who are averaging 81.6 points per game, don't lack for firepower.

Jerusalem has had more downs than ups in the European wars till now, but can be optimistic based on Sunday night's road victory in Eilat to Binbaum's debut. While newly acquired Papi Turgeman is ineligible for European play until the second round, Binbaum showed he would give Doron Shefi more playing time, which is a wise move. Afti Gordon showed some signs of breaking out of his slump, and Motti Daniel looked like he was back into things vs. Eilat.

Jerusalem's strategy until now has been to get the ball to Radisav Curcic, who is averaging 20 points per game, on almost 75% shooting. However, Curcic is going to have to share the ball more since EuroLeague clubs have fig-

Maccabi looks to get back on track against Limoges

By BRIAN FREEMAN

When Maccabi Tel Aviv shocked heavily favored Stefanel Milan last November for its first Euro League win in Italy since 1989, hopes were high that the team was ready to emerge among the elite.

But a year and seven consecutive road losses later, Maccabi looks very much like a club which consistently comes up short playing its European opponents on their own court.

The situation was made worse in Maccabi's last EuroLeague game, when Olympiakos halted Tel Aviv's eight-game home winning streak. That loss, which dropped Maccabi's record to 2-3, sent the Israelis into a very difficult situation if they want to be one of the top three teams to play the bottom three clubs of Group B in the league's second stage.

Tonight, however, Maccabi has perhaps its best chance to get back on track against Limoges in France.

Maccabi easily handled Limoges in the EuroLeague opener at Yad Eliahu, defeating the Frenchmen 78-62 in a game in which Tel Aviv dominated inside and had a suffocating team defense which limited Limoges to only 20 second-half points.

Limoges, with a 1-4 record, has not improved much since then. It brings a 1-2 home mark into the contest and has the worst offensive performance among the 24 Euro League teams with only 64.4 points a game (while allowing 75).

Its offense is so paltry that small forward Hugues Occansey is the leading scorer with only 11.2 points a game. Former Israeli league forward Nenad Markovic is second at 10.0 a contest.

The club also suffers from a lack of aggressiveness, as it goes to the free-throw line an average of only 17.6 times a game (while making only 62.5 percent of the shots, third worst in the league).

Maccabi, on the other hand, draws enough fouls to go to the line 24.2 times a contest, connecting on a league-best 81%.

Limoges is so disillusioned with foreign guard Chris Smith (9.8 average) that it has already replaced him in league play and intends to do the same in Europe once that is allowed in December.

One bright spot for Limoges, however, is the return of center Jean Jacques Conceicao, who played in his first European contest this season last game against Real Madrid and scored 12 points, pulled down seven rebounds and had four assists in 35 minutes of play in a losing effort. He has also been instrumental in Limoges's five-game league winning streak.

Maccabi hopes to continue its relative success in France, where it sports a 6-10 all-time championship record - including a 69-62 win last season in Limoges. Maccabi's all-time record against Limoges is 8-6, including a 4-3 mark in France.

Tonight's contest is scheduled to be broadcast live on Channel 1 starting at 8:15 pm.

Sri Lanka thrash Pakistan to reach final

LAHORE, Pakistan (Reuters) - Sanath Jayasuriya and Aravinda de Silva both blasted centuries against Pakistan to power Sri Lanka into the Golden Jubilee tournament final in record-breaking style yesterday.

Opener Jayasuriya struck 134 and Aravinda hit 102 in a record, unbroken third-wicket stand of 213 to sweep Sri Lanka to an eight-wicket win that dumped Pakistan out of the four-team competition of day-night games.

World Cup champions Sri Lanka, who surged to 281 for two with 10 of their 50 overs to spare after dismissing Pakistan for 280, now face South Africa to Saturday's final.

The hosts' defeat angered spectators, some of whom threw crackers onto the field, stopping the game for five minutes.

Sri Lanka were given a perfect start of 65 in 71 balls by Jayasuriya and Marvin Atapattu, who made 23 when he was run out by a pinpoint throw from deep mid-wicket by Ijaz Ahmed.

Roshan Mahanama (0) fell to a fine slip catch by Asim Sohail off Azhar Mahmood at 68 but Pakistan's attack was then played during the commanding partnership between Jayasuriya and Aravinda.

Both stroked the ball elegantly in a fine exhibition of batting as they broke Sri Lanka's all-time record one-day stand of 184 against Kenya at Kandy during the 1996 World Cup.

Man-of-the-match Jayasuriya reached his 100, his sixth one-day

international century, from only 86 balls, hitting 10 fours and two sixes, one each off Waqar Younis and off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq.

Altogether he faced 114 balls and cracked 13 fours and three sixes, while Aravinda's 10th one-day international century contained 12 fours in his 90-ball innings.

Earlier, Ijaz (94) and Sohail (70) provided the basis of Pakistan's total after they were put in to bat, sharing a stand of 122 for the third wicket after Shahid Afridi (39) and Saeed Anwar (26) gave their side a

brilliant start of 66 in 63 balls.

Ijaz's innings contained five fours and two sixes while Sohail had five fours in his 82-ball knock.

Pakistan captain Wasim Akram said heavy dew on the ground made bowling very difficult.

"Winning the loss was very crucial and that made things difficult for us," he added.

Sri Lanka captain Arjuna Ranatunga praised Jayasuriya and Aravinda and said they made batting look so easy. "This win has put us in better mind to play South Africa in the final."

PAKISTAN INNINGS

Shahid Afridi c Chaminda Vaas	...	39
Saeed Anwar c Arjuna Ranatunga b Chaminda Vaas	...	26
Asim Sohail c and b Muttiah Muralitharan	...	70
Ijaz Ahmed c and b Muttiah Muralitharan	...	94
Wasim Akram c Aravinda de Silva b Sanath Jayasuriya	...	68
Wasim Muralitharan c Lanka De Silva b Muttiah Muralitharan	...	26
Most runs out	...	10
Azhar Mahmood c Lanka De Silva b Sajeev De Silva	...	15
Rashid Latif c Lanka De Silva b Chaminda Vaas	...	31
Waqar Younis b Sajeev De Silva	...	31
Saqlain Mushtaq not out	...	31
Extras (LB 4, WB 3)	...	39
Total (All out in 49.4 overs)	...	280
Fall of wickets: 1-46, 2-73, 3-195, 4-205, 5-214, 6-234, 7-239, 8-278, 9-278, 10-280	...	

SRI LANKA BOWLING

(Overs: maidens-run-wickets)	...	10-69-3
Chaminda Vaas	...	9-4-58-3 (3-40)
Sajeev De Silva	...	10-41-0
Kumar Thirimanne	...	10-37-2
Muttiah Muralitharan	...	10-34-1
Sanath Jayasuriya	...	4-0-24-0
Aravinda de Silva	...	4-0-24-0

SRI LANKA INNINGS

Sanath Jayasuriya not out	...	134
Marvin Atapattu not out	...	23
Roshan Mahanama c Asim Sohail b Azhar Mahmood	...	68
Aravinda de Silva not out	...	102
Extras (LB 4, WB 3)	...	22
Total (For 2 wickets in 40 overs)	...	281
Fall of wickets: 1-45, 2-68	...	
Did not bat: Hanban Thilasharan, Arjuna Ranatunga, Lanka De Silva, Kumar Thirimanne, Chaminda Vaas, Muttiah Muralitharan, Sajeev De Silva	...	

PAKISTAN BOWLING

(Overs: maidens-run-wickets)	...	8-44-0 (2-2-40)
Wasim Akram	...	4-0-49-0 (1-10)
Waqar Younis	...	8-0-55-0
Saqlain Mushtaq	...	8-0-51-1 (5-1-48)
Azhar Mahmood	...	4-0-32-0
Rashid Latif	...	5-0-41-0 (5-10)
Shahid Afridi	...	5-0-41-0 (5-10)

Results: Sri Lanka won by eight wickets.
Man of the Match: Sanath Jayasuriya (Sri Lanka)

	P	W	L	T	Pts	run-rate
Sri Lanka	2	2	0	0	4	+1.36
South Africa	2	2	0	0	4	+0.23
Pakistan	3	1	2	0	2	-0.07
West Indies	3	0	3	0	0	-0.92

Canucks lose 8th straight

LANDOVER, Maryland (Reuters) - A new era began for the Vancouver Canucks Tuesday with the same old results.

Hours after president and general manager Pat Quinn was fired after more than a decade of guiding the team, the Canucks suffered their eighth straight loss, a 2-1 defeat to the Washington Capitals, who snapped a six-game winless streak.

Calle Johansson and Peter Bondra scored for the Capitals with Adam Oates and Phil Housley assisting on both goals as the Canucks turned in one of their best defensive efforts of the season, only to fall to 3-11-2, the second-worst start in franchise history.

"When you get a team like Vancouver that is very desperate and a team like us that is very desperate, you've got to expect a low scoring game," Housley said.

Bondra snapped a tie with 12:17 left in regulation converting a give and go with Oates by beating Kirk McLean with a wrist shot from the edge of the right circle for his seventh goal of the season.

Muster out of Stockholm Open

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) - Thomas Muster became the third seed to bow out of the Stockholm Open when he was beaten 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 by Slovakian Karol Kucera in the second round yesterday.

Tim Henman overcame an erratic serve to beat Sweden's Magnus Gustafsson 6-3, 2-6, 6-4 and earn a quarter-final clash with top seed Patrick Rafter.

Australian Rafter, who has yet to drop a set in Stockholm, took just 65 minutes to defeat Belgian Johan Van Herck 6-3, 6-4.

The US Open champion is one of six players already to qualify for next week's ATP Tour world championships in Hanover.

Spain's Carlos Moya yesterday joined Rafter, Pete Sampras, Michael Chang, Jonas Bjorkman and Greg Rusedski in the elite event despite being knocked out of the Stockholm tournament by Boris Becker on Tuesday.

Two places are still to be decided and Henman is in with a chance of qualifying. The defeat of Muster, the fifth seed, by Kucera, winner of the Czech Open last month, means the Austrian has little chance of traveling to Hanover.

"It's not going to be easy, is it?" said Henman, 17th in the world rankings and eighth seed in Stockholm. "But Patrick's mind might be on next week so maybe I can create some opportunities."

Third-ranked Rafter conceded that his first appearance at the end-of-season championship was in his thoughts, but said it would not affect his play on Friday.

"These days I am thinking a little toward Hanover, but I'd still like to do very well here. I won't be thinking of Hanover when I play Tim."

In first round play, Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman pressed Marc Kevin Goellner throughout a straight-sets victory which was cut short at 6-4, 5-2 when the German retired with a right hip injury.

In these times you cannot AFFORD to be without THE JERUSALEM POST

Knicks post 20th straight win over Celts

NEW YORK — The New York Knicks ruined the return to Madison Square Garden of their former coach Rick Pitino by humiliating his Boston Celtics 102-70 on Tuesday.

Patrick Ewing scored 26 points and Chris Mills and John Starks came off the bench to blow open the game as the Knicks posted their 20th straight victory over the Celtics.

Mills scored 17 and Starks added 14 for New York, which has not lost to Boston since January 10, 1993.

"I remember the days when they had the dominance over us," Ewing said. "It's nice that the tide is turned."

Pitino, who guided the Knicks to the Atlantic Division title in the 1988-89 season before leaving for the University of Kentucky, returned to the pro ranks this season to take over the task of turning around the once proud Celtics.

"I think that we were over-

matched from a team that is very experienced at both ends of the floor," Pitino said. "They played a wonderful basketball game. We certainly did not."

Travis Knight had 13 points for

Boston, which has suffered consecutive double-digit losses since an opening night upset of the Chicago Bulls.

Hawks 82, Pistons 71
Steve Smith scored 15 of his 27 points in the decisive third quarter and Alan Henderson had another strong game off the bench as Atlanta remained unbeaten.

The Hawks are 3-0 for the first time since 1990. The Pistons matched their franchise low for points in a game, tying the mark set against the Hawks on January 5, 1988.

A crowd of 13,961 attended the first of Atlanta's 28 games in the Georgia Dome, normally the home of the NFL Falcons but serving as a part-time basketball venue for the next two seasons while a new downtown arena is being built.

Henderson finished with 19 points, raising his season average to 18.7.

Raptors 104, Warriors 86
John Wallace scored 17 points and Damon Stoudamire had 16 points and 13 assists as the Toronto Raptors won their home opener.

Toronto forced 25 turnovers

while committing only nine.

Doug Christie had 11 points, eight rebounds and six assists for the Raptors and also played excellent defense against Latrell Sprewell.

Sprewell, who averaged 35 points in Golden State's first two games, was held to 12 points. Donyell Marshall led the Warriors with 20 points and 10 rebounds.

SuperSonics 118, Rockets 94
Gary Payton had 27 points and 12 assists, and the visiting Seattle SuperSonics held Houston's Hakeem Olajuwon and Clyde Drexler in check.

Detlef Schrempf added 22 points and Vin Baker 20 for Seattle.

Charles Barkley led the Rockets with 17 points and 11 rebounds. Olajuwon was held to eight points and four rebounds in 32 minutes, while Drexler finished with nine points in 25 minutes.

Lakers 101, Kings 98
Eddie Jones scored a career-high 35 points and Elden Campbell made five straight free throws in the closing minutes as the Los Angeles Lakers rallied to defeat host Sacramento.

Campbell scored 17 of his 21 points in the second half. Jones scored 24 points in the first half, when he made 10 of 11 shots from the field.

Richmond led Sacramento (0-3) with 24 points. (Reuters, AP)

Tuesday's results:

Toronto 104, Golden State 86
New York 102, Boston 70
Atlanta 82, Detroit 71

Cleveland 80, Indiana 77
Seattle 118, Houston 94
Milwaukee 110, Orlando 76

Dallas 92, Vancouver 87
Washington 120, Denver 96
Phoenix 106, Utah 84

Portland 122, Minnesota 105
LA Lakers 101, Sacramento 98



GREAT SCOTT — Philadelphia's Scott Rolen, was voted NL Rookie of the Year.

Rolen unanimous top NL rookie

NEW YORK (AP) — Scott Rolen of the Philadelphia Phillies was unanimously voted National League Rookie of the Year yesterday, breaking the Los Angeles Dodgers' five-year hold on the award.

The 22-year-old third baseman became the youngest NL player to reach 90 RBIs since Darryl Strawberry in 1984, and led NL rookies in batting average (.283), runs (93), hits (159), doubles (35), homers (21) and RBIs (92).

Los Angeles players had won the award since 1992, an unprecedented streak established by Eric Karros, Mike Piazza, Raul Mondesi, Hideki Nomo and Todd Hollandsworth.

No Dodgers even received votes this year. Wilton Guerrero, their top candidate, hit .291 with four homers and 32 RBIs.

Rolen received all 28 first-place votes and 140 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Livan Hernandez, the Cuban defector who went 9-3 with a

3.18 ERA in 17 starts for the Florida Marlins, was tied for second with Matt Morris, who was 12-9 with a 3.19 ERA for the St. Louis Cardinals. Both had 25 points.

Rich Loeiselle of the Pittsburgh Pirates was fourth with 22 points, followed by Andrew Jones of the Atlanta Braves with 15.

Rolen was the Phillies' second-round pick in the June 1993 amateur draft. He became the first Philadelphia rookie to lead the team in homers and RBIs since Greg Luzinski in 1972, and had the most homers and RBIs for a Phillies rookie since Willie Montanez in 1971.

Rolen, who made the minimum \$150,000 last season, earned a \$25,000 bonus for winning the award. He became the eighth unanimous NL rookie winner, joining Jackie Robinson (1947), Orlando Cepeda (1958), Willie McCovey (1959), Vince Coleman (1985), Benito Santiago (1987), Piazza (1993) and Mondesi (1994).

Combined with Nomar Garciaparra's unanimous election as AL Rookie of the Year on Monday, it marked only the third time both rookie winners were unanimous choices. It also happened in 1993 (Piazza and Tim Lincecum) and 1987 (Santiago and Mark McGwire).

Rolen is the third Phillies player to win, joining Jack Sanford (1957) and Richie Allen (1964).

Voting for the 1997 National League Rookie of the Year Award, with first-, second- and third-place votes and total points on a 5-3-1 basis:

Player	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
Scott Rolen, Phi	28	—	—	140
Livan Hernandez, Fla	8	1	—	25
Matt Morris, StL	7	4	—	25
Rich Loeiselle, Pit	4	10	—	22
Andrew Jones, Atl	4	3	—	15
Wilton Guerrero, Fla	1	6	—	9
Jose Guillen, Pit	1	1	—	4
Brett Tomko, Cin	1	1	—	4
Jeremi Gonzalez, Chi	1	—	—	3
Tony Womack, Cin	1	—	—	3
Kevin Orie, Chi	—	1	—	1
Neifi Perez, Col	—	1	—	1

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	2	0	1.000	—
Miami	2	1	.667	½
New York	2	1	.667	½
Washington	2	2	.500	1
Boston	1	2	.333	1½
Orlando	1	2	.333	1½
Philadelphia	0	2	.000	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	3	0	1.000	—
Houston	2	1	.667	—
Minnesota	2	1	.667	—
San Antonio	2	1	.667	—
Vancouver	1	2	.333	2
Utah	1	3	.250	2½
Denver	0	3	.000	3

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
LA Lakers	2	0	1.000	—
Phoenix	2	0	1.000	—
Portland	2	1	.667	½
Seattle	2	1	.667	½
LA Clippers	0	2	.000	2
Golden State	0	3	.000	2½
Sacramento	0	3	.000	2½

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Britain to open football museum

Weekender



A heavily muscled, shaven-headed, gutter-talking Demi Moore takes on the most male of preserves, the SEALS – the US Navy's special-forces unit.

The toughest cookie

In 'G.I. Jane,' Demi Moore takes as much physical punishment as any woman ever has on the silver screen

By MICHAEL OLLOVE

Behind some of cinema's most vivid and heroic women characters in recent years is a British director with a grizzled beard on his chin and a Cuban cigar in his mouth. He is Ridley Scott, the man who launched Sigourney Weaver's Ripley on the first of her battles against rapacious aliens and later set Thelma and Louise loose on their journey of female rebellion. In *G.I. Jane*, which opens in Israeli cinemas tomorrow, he's poised to unleash a heavily muscled, shaven-headed, gutter-talking Demi Moore on the most male of preserves, the SEALS, the Navy's special-forces unit.

When a retrospective of his films was shown at Washington's Kennedy Center by the American Film Institute in August, Ridley Scott willingly accepted the characterization of himself as a feminist. "I guess I must be," he said as though he'd never considered the question before. "A lot of men have a problem with strong women. I never have." The actresses who appear in Ridley Scott films had better be strong.

Scott said that Moore put on 25 pounds (about 11 kilos) of muscle to play Navy Lt. Jordan O'Neill, who endures as much physical punishment as any woman ever has on the screen. In addition to all the heavy lifting, running, and

swimming in the open seas, Jordan is beaten up by a training officer, her head slammed into wooden poles and her ribs kicked. But in the end, with her eyes blackened and lips split, Jordan perseveres, a symbol, Scott says, that certain women can perform any job a man can.

In Scott's view, it's not a question of whether women can succeed in a man's arena, it's whether men can handle their success. Quoting one of the male officers in *G.I. Jane*, Scott said of Moore's character, "She's not the problem. We are."

In its story line, *G.I. Jane* is as predictable as a movie can be. Even Scott volunteers that the film is formulaic. But he is not apologetic. "If formulaic is somebody who is unlikely to succeed starting a process and succeeding – then isn't that what most films are about? And art films are about people who aren't likely to succeed, and then don't succeed. I know I'm being facetious, but mainstream films tend to have success as an ending, and I guess we didn't want failure."

At times Scott, 59, a mild, rusty-haired man, sounds like someone determined to hush closely to Hollywood orthodoxy. A film student at London's Royal College of Art, he directed episodic television before putting in 10 extremely profitable years as a director of commercials, many of them

award-winning. In 1977, he directed his first movie, a period piece called *The Duellists*, starring Harvey Keitel as a Napoleonic officer who through the decades relentlessly insists on fighting Keith Carradine to the death over a long-forgotten slight. The film, which cost only \$900,000 to produce, earned enthusiastic notices and won the Jury Prize at Cannes.

It was a heady beginning, which caused Scott all the more disappointment when he discovered that critical acclaim does not equate with commercial success. After Cannes, he learned that only seven copies of *The Duellists* were to be circulated in the United States. No one would see his film. He was convinced he was a failure.

He was wrong, of course. Someone had seen his film. Someone important. The reception of *The Duellists* at Cannes landed Scott the opportunity to film *Alien* – a science-fiction thriller about a woman commander of a spaceship that was carrying a toothy, serial-killing alien. Scott found himself with a \$8.6 million budget and in short order, he had his first Hollywood hit.

"It was weird," he said. "In two films I experienced the art side and the Hollywood side of filmmaking. In a way there's a danger to understanding the difference because you then go down that route of optimum opportunity for

Hollywood success, which is commerce over art. *Alien* was one of the pioneering action films to have a heroine at its center, and its claustrophobic look became a model for later space films. His *Blade Runner* (1982) was even more influential with its bleak, dispiriting vision of a soulless world where technology is supreme. And, of course, *Thelma and Louise* provided the visceral pleasure of watching women taking their revenge for enduring a lifetime of Neanderthal males.

Scott is pleased by the way he handled sexuality in *G.I. Jane*. "We avoid sex completely," he said. "It's asexual."

In one scene, the training officer, played by Viggo Mortensen, walks in on Jordan while she's in the shower. "The natural tendency would be for her to cover herself," said Scott, "but her intuition knew this and led her to decide not to cover up to perpetuate the idea that she is just like the rest of them."

While Scott may have a high regard for the professionalism of Naval officers, that doesn't mean the US Navy thinks well of his film. The Navy refused its help on the movie and issued a statement distancing itself from *G.I. Jane*. "[The Department of Defense] did not support the production because the script contained portrayals of military life, people, operations and training that did

not reflect today's military or the fact that individual dignity is primary in the U.S. Navy," the statement said.

Scott believes the Navy was displeased with his portrayal of the Navy brass being opposed to a woman joining an elite fighting force. In fact, federal law prohibits women from being in direct combat units. Presumably, the Navy wasn't bappy with a film that showed SEAL candidates being beaten and tortured as part of their training. At one point, the training officer threatens Jordan with rape in an attempt to break her.

Scott admits that at times he took filmic license. He asked his military advisers – some of them former SEALs themselves – what methods they would use in training if free of policy constraints and political correctness.

"I asked them how would you really like to train these people for real conditions, pressure and battle conditions," Scott said. "So some things are classical in the film and one or two things cross the line really into areas that they probably would like to go into or have visited before and found to be too stringent."

"I'm not saying SEAL training is easy, but in certain aspects it probably doesn't go as far as we wanted to go," Scott knew that his latest heroine would be able to handle anything.

(The Baltimore Sun)

Artists' Colony

By HENRI J. GLEIT

At one table, the conversation centered on the definition of beauty, with frequent diversions onto chess strategy when someone at the neighboring table made the wrong move.

A few feet away, at the bar, an aspiring writer explained what he was trying to convey in his latest work, while his companions told him where he hadn't quite succeeded.

The conversations were intense, at times rather heated, but not enough to break the concentration of the man in the corner sketching the scene at the bar.

The proprietor fitted between tables, offering a comment or a plate of tapas or a beer when it seemed appropriate.

In Spain, such gathering places are common, says Carmel Zelikovich, who, with her husband Eran, is trying to recreate that atmosphere at the Smadar Tapas Bar which they opened recently at the Smadar Theater in Jerusalem's German Colony neighborhood. Such places are where Spanish art developed and flourished, says Zelikovich, adding that she thinks Jerusalem sorely needs a space for informal artistic interchange.

The theater, Jerusalem's oldest functioning cinema, is an appropriate venue, its old Jerusalem charm and recent renovations combining to give it a comfortable, welcoming feel.

The Smadar, built by the Mandate period, was renovated and reopened last summer by Shani Films Ltd. Unlike its other theaters, located in malls in the Tel Aviv area, Shani wanted its Lev Smadar theater to be a neighborhood theater that would supplement the offerings of bigger cinemas showing more commercial movies.

Zelikovich dislikes labels, making it clear that the Smadar Tapas Bar is not a restaurant, cafe, coffeehouse or bar, but is simply a quiet, informal place where people can discuss and create art while enjoying simple, inexpensive Spanish food.

She excitedly points at one of the half-dozen wood tables scattered in the theater's foyer, where a young writer has spent several hours sitting and typing away on a laptop computer. At the other end of the enclosed courtyard is a large tree, which is growing through a hole in the ceiling and serves as a notice board. Every few days, a poet comes by and tucks up his latest work amid the flyers announcing events.

Though the customers usually are people in their twenties, the clientele includes people of all ages who, on their way into the movie house, are tempted by the platters of tapas displayed at the end of the bar.

All this food is the kind we ate in my house, my grandmother's house, and my grandmother's mother's house, explains Zelikovich, who grew up in Venezuela eating the Spanish food her family has loved for generations, both before and after moving to South America.

In addition to soups, salad platters and cakes, Zelikovich and her assistants prepare a variety of tapas, the Spanish equivalent of meze.

The tapas include eggplant slices, fried and then marinated in vinegar, breaded croquettes, fried balls of milk and flour flavored with onions, tuna, olives, peppers or cheese. There are also colorful miniature skewers of vegetables and cheeses. Examples of the entire menu are on display behind a window at the bar, and Zelikovich is eager to explain what each item is. For now, only vegetarian food is being served, though Zelikovich emphasizes that she doesn't want the tapas bar to be called vegetarian. She has just eliminated meat from the menu to avoid the problems of kosher, and has not been able to find high-quality fish in Jerusalem.

The final menu, plates and bowls of the tapas bar are not yet set. For now, the hours are dictated by the movie schedule and the mood. Zelikovich generally closes the kitchen at midnight, but if people are hungry after viewing a late-night film, she'll keep serving food. The Smadar Tapas Bar is open Monday to Thursday from 7 p.m. until 1 a.m., or whenever everyone decides to leave, on Friday night from 9 p.m. and on Saturday from 1 p.m. There also is a happy hour on Saturday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., when drinks from the bar are discounted 25 percent.

The Smadar Tapas Bar, 4 Lloyd George, Jerusalem.

Movies on my mind

Author Galila Ron-Feder Amit talks about her favorite films

Galila Ron-Feder Amit is such a prolific author that she has lost count of how many books she's written. Though better known for her novels for children, her fourth book for adults, *Free to Fly*, was published by Modan on the eve of Rosh Hashana.

Ron-Feder Amit, a frequent radio and TV host and guest, is currently working on two television series targeted for "the whole family." Both of these are scheduled to go on the air sometime around January.

Considering the focus of much of Ron-Feder Amit's work, it is not surprising that the five films she considers her favorites all involve an emotional process undergone by children. Though each of the movies originates in a different country – France, Italy, the US, Scotland and Yugoslavia – the issues with which each of the directors is grappling are universal.

1. *La Guerre Des Boutons* ("The Button War"). France, 1962. Directed by Yves Robert. "I first saw it as a child, and still enjoy watching it on video. It taught me an incredible amount about children in general, and about youth gangs in particular. Set in provincial France, this movie is about two gangs of kids at 'war' with one another. The winning group removes the buttons from the clothes of the losers. The movie not only gives a glimpse into the world of children, but serves as a parable about the world of adults as well."

2. *Cinema Paradiso*. Italy, 1990. Directed by Giuseppe Tornatore. "This film is about a child who adores movies. Set in an Italian village, it reveals the world from the perspective of a young boy, based on his nostalgia for the movie theater in his village and for the man who operates the projector."

3. *Stand by Me*. US, 1986. Directed by Rob Reiner. "This movie is about four 12-year-old boys who undergo an initiation into maturity through their search for a corpse. Their quest leads them to remove their

'masks' and move closer to one another. It is a marvelous depiction of the problems of youth. Interestingly, one of the lead actors, River Phoenix, died of an overdose of drugs."



4. *Trainspotting*. Scotland, 1996. Directed by Danny Boyle. Based on the novel by Irvine Welsh.

This is about a group of young Scots who become addicted to drugs, as a result of their lack of values and loss of hope and ambition. Aside from being a powerful commentary on the state of the culture surrounding these kids, the film itself is so powerful that I actually felt the nausea and shakes experienced from the need for a fix. Something in the camera angles and acting gives an ultra-realistic view of the experience.

5. *When Father Was Away on Business*. Yugoslavia, 1985. Directed by Emir Kusturica.

"This movie about a man unjustly arrested by the Communists of Yugoslavia is shown from the perspective of his son. Unable to understand why his father has been arrested, the boy tries to make sense of the world around him. This is difficult for him to do, since the fate of his father rests in the hands of a few corrupt people. Showing the ills of the regime through the eyes of a child makes it seem all the more senseless."

— Ruthie Blum

Hot tips

By KAREN SULKIS

Tel Aviv area

Theater in House Slippers presents a weekend of bargain-priced plays. Tonight's program features *Call Waiting* and *An Indifferent Male Beauty* at 8:30. *And Now for the Candies, Excuse Me for Breathing* and *The Catcher* all at 11. Shows continue tomorrow at 2, 9 and 11, and Saturday at 8:20 and 11. In the Sheinkin Street Community Center, near Gan Sheinkin. Call (03) 528-8827/9. For some of us, moving to Israel

means an end to seeing those often unsightly and pretentious "foreign" films. Not because we've outgrown them, but because we can't read the Hebrew subtitles.

Tonight, the Cinematheque presents a program to help you reclaim the art-house snob within. The fun begins at 5 p.m. with a screening of *Identification Marks*: None. This 1965 film is in Polish, but you'll understand everything, because the subtitles are in English! So are the titles for the German film *Neben der Zeit*, which follows at 6:30. Capping the evening is John Sayles's *Lone Star*. Most of this film is in English, but the plot twists are so bizarre that you may sometimes wonder. Screening starts at 9:30. The Cinematheque is at the corner of Carlebach and Ha'arba streets.

Raising the Curtain, a three-week-long dance festival, begins tonight at the Suzanne Dellal Center.

This evening's program features Ido Tadmor's *Uranus* at 7 and

works by choreographers Yossi Yungman and Sonia D'Orelean at 10:30. Also at 10:30 are Barak Marshall's intriguingly titled *Emma Goldman's Marriage* and Inbal Pinto's *Duet*. Call (03) 510-5656.

Still wondering where to find all that swell Tel Aviv nightlife you've been hearing so much about? Want to experience all of it in one night? You're in luck. Tonight, Tel Aviv After Dark and the Egged and United Tours bus companies are cohosting a nightclub tour. The club crawl starts at 9 at Planet Hollywood (86 Herbert Samuel Street, on the beachfront side of the Yanit Hotel). A mere NIS 112 buys you transportation on Egged, admission to all the hotspots you visit and drinks. Call (03) 525-6484 for reservations.

Black Mud plays soul and rhythm & blues tonight at Camelot, 16 Shalom Aleichem Street. The show starts at 11. Call (03) 528-5222.

Tonight at 10:30, Assaf

Amdorski takes the stage at Barbi, 8 Rehov Yona Hanavi. Then at midnight, the club surrenders to G-Spot. Call (03) 517-0528.

The African Roots band entertains you and your fanned friends at the Dolphinarium. The music starts tonight at 8:30. The Dolphinarium is off the beachfront promenade, not far from the Dan Panorama Hotel.

Jerusalem

It's a busy night tonight at the Jerusalem Theater complex. Ulpian flunkies will be glad to know that the Jerusalem English Speaking Theater is presenting Mrs. Klein. The JESTers take the stage tonight at 8:30.

Also at 8:30 over in the theater's Henry Crown Symphony Hall, the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra performs works by Mozart, Schumann, Leonard Bernstein and Lukas Foss, who'll also be conducting. For information on both performances, call (02) 561-0011.

The Khan Theater hosts a production of *Antigone*, Sophocles's immortal Greek tragedy, by way of Jean Anouilh, at 8:30 tonight.

It seems that no place on Earth is safe from uncredentialed intergender communication guru John Gray. C.S. Brandt leads a lecture and discussion of Gray's *Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus*. Tonight at 8 at the Israel Center, 10 Straus Street. Call (02) 567-0512.

Dutch dancer Eva Sandberger presents *Skin Hunger*, an evening of solo dance. Tonight at 9 at Habama, 4 Rehov Yad Harutzim.

And Points Beyond

We all know men who still act like little boys. They won't grow up. They can't grow up. They even seem to live in a world of their own. Why settle for pale imitations when you can experience the original – and take your children? Catch Peter Pan today at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the Haifa Auditorium.

Weekender Food & Drink



Chickpea, bulgur and tomato pilaf

(Cooking Light)

A toast to the green and gold

With so many olive oils crowding the shelves, how do you know which are the best ones to buy?

By LINDA WEST ECKHARDT
& LAURA FRASER

Not long ago, the big bottle of olive oil I keep next to my stove ran dry. Evidently, I was using a lot more to cook with than I had in the past. So I turned off the pasta sauce and headed to the store.

It used to be easy to pick up olive oil at the supermarket. You had a choice: the big bottle or the little one. But now I was faced with more varieties than there were brands of shampoo — whole shelves of them. I could have early-harvest, unfiltered, organic or cold-pressed. My olive oil could be pressed with oranges, lemons or tangerines; it could be flavored with basil, garlic or Tuscan pepper. I could buy it in square, cylindrical or elegantly elongated bottles.

The shelf labels read like those you'd see at a good wine store, introducing me to a whole new olive-oil vocabulary. "Complex, with hints of grass and nuttiness," read one. "Sweet, creamy and buttery" and "big, peppery finish" read others.

And I could pay anywhere from \$3 to \$18 (NIS 14 to NIS 63) for a tiny bottle. What was I supposed to do?

I couldn't decide whether to opt for the big tin at the supermarket or the boutique bottle. Most consumers choose something in between: They don't buy the cheapest or the most expensive, settling instead on a mid-priced oil, like a blended extra-virgin in a big bottle, and then using it for everything. But that strategy may actually be giving you the least taste for your money.

Olive oil is used for two very different purposes: as a fat for cooking and as a condiment to add flavor to a dish. If you use the same mid-range oil for both purposes, you're paying too much for cooking fat and aren't getting enough flavor as a condiment. When you heat olive oil, it loses much of its taste, so it is a waste to use an extra-virgin oil that way. Besides, less-expensive "pure" grade oil is actually better to cook with because it is refined, with no olive particles at the bottom of the bottle that can burn at high heat.

But when you're using olive oil for its flavor — when tossing it with roasted vegetables or adding it to pasta, for example — a higher-priced extra-virgin oil will usually produce a much better result than a mid-priced one.

"It's worth it to splurge on a bot-

tle of really good-flavored olive oil for the intense taste," says Jesse Cool, owner and overseeing chef of a cafe in Menlo Park, California.

It is easy enough to figure out which olive oil to buy for cooking — try the cheapest of a name brand or an inexpensive blended extra-virgin oil. But how can you tell which high-quality extra-virgin oil to invest in? The best oils typically come from one location — they aren't blended by a large company, but are made on small estates with their own labels.

"A good olive oil is like wine," says Silvana LaRocca, owner of a specialty-cooking shop in Berkeley, California. "It's satisfying, mouth-filling and fragrant. As with grapes and wine, each type of olive tree from each location produces a distinctive oil."

The only way to tell which oil you will enjoy most is to try several. Some have a robust flavor that complements the area's cuisine. Others are lighter and more delicate, with complicated, fruity flavors. Richly colored green olive oils, which come from younger, greener olives, tend to be more strongly flavored and a little more bitter and peppery. More golden oils are from blacker, riper olives and will typically have a smoother, milder, more buttery taste.

Good olive oils don't leave a greasy film in your mouth, but have a clean finish. In the end, like wine, which olive oil you should buy comes down to your personal taste. A particular one may be well-made, but the flavor might not appeal to you.

Because good olive oil is intensely flavored, a little goes a long way. Instead of frying most foods, try blanching or roasting vegetables before tossing them with a little olive oil toward the end. For sautéing, use just a little oil, then add some water or broth to keep the fat content of the dish low. Even though olive oil is more healthful than saturated fats, it isn't any less fattening.

"Like any other oil, it has 130 calories per tablespoon," says Dr. Marion Nestle, professor of nutrition and food studies at New York University.

"It's a really good idea to substitute olive oil for saturated fat," Nestle says. "But good grief — in a diet in which calories are over-

consumed, you have to be careful with it just like you are with anything else."

Now, after researching all the ins and outs of olive oil, I was ready to go back to the store. First, I bought the largest, cheapest tin of pure

olive oil I could find, which I decided to use for cooking. Then it was back to the deli, where I chose three bottles of extra-virgin oil the same way I would choose unfamiliar wine — by luck and instinct. I searched the labels to be sure the oils were cold-pressed and first-harvest, and got three which, it turns out, have good, distinctive flavors.

After experimenting with which one I like on pastas and which on salad, I still haven't decided which I like best. One is light and buttery; another is strong and peppery; the third is a complex combination of the two. But hey, give me time: I'm having too much fun to figure this out all at once.

SHERY VINAIGRETTE WITH CURRANTS
Serve this vinaigrette with mixed greens.

1/4 cup sherry vinegar
1/4 cup water
1/4 cup currants
2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
2 tsp. Dijon mustard
1/4 tsp. sugar
1/4 tsp. kosher salt
1/4 tsp. freshly ground pepper
4 garlic cloves, crushed

Combine all ingredients in a jar. Cover tightly, and shake vigorously. (Makes 1 cup.)

GREEK MEATBALLS WITH LEMON-HERB ORZO

3 1/2 tsp. extra-virgin olive oil, divided
1 cup minced onion
1 cup Italian-seasoned bread crumbs
1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
1/4 cup chopped fresh oregano
1/4 tsp. pepper
1/4 cup water
1/4 cup grated carrot
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 kg. lean ground lamb
4 garlic cloves, minced
1 large egg, lightly beaten
lemon-herb orzo (recipe below)

Preheat oven to 220°.

Heat 1 tsp. oil in a large omelette skillet over medium-high heat. Add the onion, and sauté 3 minutes. Combine the onion and the next 10 ingredients (onion through egg). Shape meat mixture into 30 meatballs, each with a diameter of about 4 cm. Place on a broiler pan and bake 20 minutes or until done.

Combine the lemon-herb orzo and meatballs in a large bowl. Drizzle each serving with 1/2 tsp. olive oil. (Serves 5.)

SANTA BARBARA PASTA SALAD

This salad can be stored in the refrigerator for up to a week.

450 gr. package frozen baby lima beans
3 cups cooked orzo or other small pasta shapes
1 1/2 cups diced bell pepper
1 cup finely chopped onion
1 cup chopped tomatoes
1 cup fresh corn kernels (about 3 ears)
1/4 cup minced fresh coriander
2 Tbsp. white wine vinegar
2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
1/4 tsp. salt
135 gr. can chopped green chilis

Cook beans in boiling water 18 minutes or until beans are tender. Drain well.

Combine beans and remaining ingredients in a large bowl. Serve at room temperature or chilled. (Serves 10.)

BASIL-PARSLEY SAUCE

This dip can be used for artichokes as an alternative to melted butter.

1 cup fat-free chicken broth
2 Tbsp. cornstarch
2 large egg yolks, lightly beaten
1/4 cup minced fresh parsley
1/4 cup chopped fresh basil
2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
1 Tbsp. finely chopped lemon rind
1 garlic clove, minced

Combine broth and cornstarch in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil, and cook 1 minute, stirring constantly. Gradually add hot broth mixture to egg yolks; stir constantly with a whisk. Return broth mixture to pan; cook over medium-low heat 15 minutes. Pour into a bowl; stir in parsley and remaining ingredients.

Cover and chill. Serve with steamed fresh vegetables such as artichokes, carrots and potatoes, if desired. (Makes 1 1/2 cups.)

VEGETABLE PIZZA WITH FETA CHEESE

In this recipe, the vegetables are cooked in a flavorful citrus-vermouth mixture. You can, however, skip the procedure and use plain steamed or sautéed vegetables. A strong extra-virgin olive oil is a must for flavor, as it is drizzled over the pizza at the very end.

1/2 cup dry vermouth
1/4 tsp. grated lemon rind
3 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
2 Tbsp. chopped red onion
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. dried thyme
6 black peppercorns
1 cup sliced zucchini
1 cup sliced yellow squash
1/2 cup chopped red bell pepper
3 cups sliced cremini mushrooms
1/2 kg. Italian cheese-flavored pizza crust (such as Boboli)
1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese
1 Tbsp. chopped fresh parsley
1 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil

Preheat oven to 190°C. Combine first 7 ingredients in a large saucepan; bring to a boil. Add zucchini, squash and bell pepper; reduce heat and simmer 4 minutes. Add mushrooms; simmer 2 minutes. Drain well; discard liquid and peppercorns.

Place pizza crust on a baking sheet. Sprinkle with half of feta; top with vegetable mixture. Sprinkle with remaining feta and parsley. Bake at 190°C for 10 minutes or until thoroughly heated (cheese will not melt). Drizzle with olive oil. (Serves 6.)

LINGUINE WITH ROASTED TOMATOES AND GARLIC

1 kg. cherry tomatoes
2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil, divided
1/4 tsp. salt, divided
1/4 tsp. pepper
5 large unpeeled garlic cloves
4 cups hot cooked linguine
1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
2 Tbsp. chopped fresh basil

Preheat oven to 230°. Combine cherry tomatoes, 1 Tbsp. oil, 1/4 tsp. salt, pepper, and garlic in a 33 x 23 cm. baking dish; toss gently. Bake for 45 minutes or until garlic is browned, stirring occasionally. (Tomato skins will pop.)

Squeeze garlic cloves to extract garlic pulp; discard skins. Add garlic pulp to tomato mixture, stirring gently. Combine tomato mixture, remaining oil and salt, pasta, parsley and basil in a large bowl; toss gently. (Serves 4.)

GREEN BEANS WITH LEMON AND BROWNED GARLIC

1/4 cup water
1/4 kg. green beans, trimmed
2 1/2 tsp. olive oil
3 garlic cloves, minced
3 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper

Bring water to a boil in a large omelette skillet; add beans. Cook 3 minutes; drain and set aside.

Heat oil in skillet over medium-high heat. Add garlic and beans, and sauté 1 minute. Add juice, salt and pepper; sauté 1 minute. (Serves 4.)

ROASTED-EGGPLANT DIP WITH FOCACCIA

1/2 kg. eggplant
2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
2 Tbsp. sherry vinegar
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. dried marjoram
1/4 tsp. pepper
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 cup finely chopped onion
1 cup finely chopped tomato
2 Tbsp. chopped fresh parsley
375 gr. package focaccia (Italian flatbread), cut in 12 wedges

Preheat oven to 220°. Place eggplant on a baking sheet; bake for 45 minutes or until tender. Cool. Peel; finely chop to measure 1 cup.

Combine oil and next 5 ingredients (oil through garlic) in a medium bowl. Add eggplant, onion, tomato and parsley; stir well. Cover and chill. Serve with focaccia. (Serves 12.)

CHICKPEA, BULGUR AND TOMATO PILAF

1 cup uncooked bulgur or cracked wheat
1 cup boiling water
1 cup diced plum tomato
1 cup diagonally sliced green onions
1/4 cup chopped flat-leaf parsley
1/4 tsp. grated lemon rind
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
3 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. hot sauce
dash of pepper
450 gr. can chickpeas, drained
3 pitot, each cut into 4 wedges

Combine bulgur and water in a large bowl. Cover and let stand 30 minutes. Add the tomato and next 9 ingredients (tomato through chickpeas); stir well. Cover and chill. Serve with pita wedges. (Serves 5.)

LEMON-HERB ORZO

5 cups hot cooked orzo (rice-shaped pasta)
1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley

Thursday, November 6, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

2 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1/4 tsp. chopped fresh oregano
1/4 tsp. pepper

Combine all the ingredients in a large bowl, and stir well. (Serves 5.)

ROSEMARY-LEMON CAKE WITH CURRANTS

1 cup all-purpose flour
1 tsp. fresh rosemary
1 tsp. baking powder
1/4 tsp. baking soda
1/4 tsp. salt
3/4 cup and 2 Tbsp. sugar, divided
3 Tbsp. olive oil
1/2 cup plain fat-free yogurt
1/4 tsp. vanilla extract
1/4 tsp. almond extract
1 large egg
1 large egg white
2 tsp. grated lemon rind
1/4 cup currants or raisins
cooking spray
3 Tbsp. lemon juice

Preheat oven to 175°. Combine first 5 ingredients in a bowl; set aside.

Combine 1/4 cup sugar and oil in a large bowl; beat at high speed of a mixer 2 minutes. Add yogurt, extracts, egg and egg white; beat 1 minute. Add flour mixture; beat at low speed until well-blended. Fold in rind and currants.

Pour batter into a 23 cm. spring-form pan coated with cooking spray. Bake for 25 minutes or until golden and cake springs back when touched lightly in center. Remove from oven. Pierce cake with a fork. Combine remaining sugar and lemon juice; spoon over cake. Cool on a wire rack. (Serves 8.)

BRUSCHETTA POMODORO

Pomodoro is Italian for tomato.

2 cups minced plum tomato
1/2 tsp. capers
2 Tbsp. chopped kalamata olives
1 Tbsp. chopped red onion
1 Tbsp. chopped fresh basil
1 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. balsamic vinegar

1/4 tsp. pepper
10 slices French bread baguette, sliced diagonally 1 cm. thick, toasted

Combine all the ingredients except French bread; cover and let stand 30 minutes. Drain the tomato mixture. Top each bread slice with 1 Tbsp. of tomato mixture. (Serves 10.)

SKILLET-ROASTED LEMON CHICKEN WITH POTATOES

3 tsp. extra-virgin olive oil, divided
1 large lemon, sliced
1/2 tsp. grated lemon rind
1 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1/4 tsp. salt, divided
1/4 tsp. pepper, divided
6 garlic cloves, minced, divided
8 skinned, boned chicken thighs, 90 gr. each
1 tsp. chopped fresh or 1/4 tsp. dried rosemary
10 cherry tomatoes
10 kalamata olives
8 small red potatoes, quartered
rosemary sprig (optional)

Preheat oven to 230°. Coat a 25-cm. cast-iron skillet with 1 tsp. oil. Arrange lemon slices in a single layer in bottom of skillet.

Combine 1 tsp. olive oil, lemon rind, lemon juice, 1/4 tsp. salt, 1/4 tsp. pepper, and 4 garlic cloves in a large bowl. Add chicken, and toss to coat. Arrange chicken in a single layer on top of lemon slices. Combine remaining olive oil, garlic, salt and pepper with chopped rosemary, cherry tomatoes, olives and potatoes in a bowl, and toss to coat. Arrange the potato mixture over chicken.

Top with a rosemary sprig, if desired. Bake for 1 hour or until chicken is done. (Serves 4.)

Cookbook author Linda West Eckhardt lives in Ashland, Oregon. Laura Fraser is a California-based freelance writer. Copyright 1997 Creators Syndicate, Inc.

Phyllis's Tips

The ultimate dessert topping

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Whipped cream is the ultimate dessert topping, but not everyone wants to take the time and make the effort to prepare it. And so, it is no wonder that the Americans invented products like Redi-Whip — whipped cream in a can that's ready at the press of a button.

Until now, Israelis were able to buy only a parve substitute. Now a real (dairy) whipped cream in a can is available in Israel, imported by Ron Food, Channily can be stored for up to nine months "unrefrigerated," but should be refrigerated after first use. With a specially stir top, Channily can be used to decorate ice cream, coffee, cakes and other desserts.

It is available in three tasty flavors — vanilla, strawberry and chocolate. However, consumers should be aware that it contains emulsifiers and food coloring, depending on flavor. NIS 10.95.

Pizza trends

Now that pizza purveyors have exhausted the toppings issue, they have moved on to offering a different crust. Pizza Hut introduced Cheesy Crust just a year ago, and now Domino's has countered with Pizza Rustic, regular pizza with a pesto pizza crust. Added to the dough are basil, parsley and garlic, with a touch of Romano cheese sprinkled on the crust.

According to Marketing Manager Ami Ben-Dor, this is the first of a series of flavored crusts that the company plans to introduce in the near future. All 24 Domino's branches carry the new pizza crust, which is available with a variety of toppings. Sold only in the large size, a pesto crust pizza costs NIS 24.90, including one extra topping.

The company also has a new Internet site (www.dominos.com).

Handmade chocolates. Israelis have always been chocolate lovers. In recent years, especially with the opening of Yehuda Hagazit, the quality of Israeli chocolate has improved vastly. This gave impetus to cottage industries producing handmade chocolates, generally based on Belgian chocolate.

The latest of these is Genevieve Pralines, which come in assorted flavors and designs and are packaged in decorative boxes. The most popular flavor is milk chocolate with honey. They're pretty, but the best I can say is that they taste okay.

A box of 20 pralines (250 gr.) sells for NIS 50. Genevieve Pralines are available at the home of the manufacturer, Gabi Holstman, (23 Dr. Eliahu St. Ramat Gan, Tel. 03-534-9276), the Rafi Shmueli Delis in Gan Ha'ir and Ramat Hasharon, the Stern Deli in Givatayim and at various cafes throughout the country.

Why are fruits and vegetables coated with wax? Is the wax detrimental to one's health?

— Susan Friedberg, Ashdod

The fruit and vegetable industries often coat produce with wax (dunag in Hebrew) to seal in moisture and extend the storage life of the item. Doing so also minimizes weight loss during dehydration, which could be quite costly for producers. Some consumers also like the sheen wax adds; shiny apples are more attractive than regular ones.

While the wax itself is not poisonous, it does toughen the fruit or vegetable's skin, give it an off-flavor and is impossible to remove, thwarting your ability to scrub off pesticides that may have been sprayed on the fruit before it was waxed.

Apples, cucumbers, citrus fruit, bell peppers and pears are among the fruits and vegetables most

often waxed, though it is possible to find them occasionally without wax (particularly, but not only, if you buy them organic). Although I am against peeling fruits and vegetables because of the fiber and vitamin loss, I prefer peeling waxed fruit to eating the wax.

I like making my own bread, but I'm a novice and don't understand the function of certain ingredients in the recipe, so I'm afraid to vary them. What is the difference between using milk or water in a bread recipe? I also have heard that you can add potato water or beer as a liquid. What is the difference between them? What does adding an egg do?

— Carol Balin, Beersheba

Bread made with water generally will have a chewier texture than that made with milk. Milk contains protein and sugar in the form of lactose; this will help produce a more delicate texture and a deeper brown crust. Milk, potato cooking water and beer all add nutrients, calories and flavor to the bread. The yeast also interacts with them, producing a higher loaf.

Eggs add color, flavor, nutrients (including protein), more volume and a definite richness to breads like hallah. In cake and

pastry baking, the coagulated egg protein helps keep the cake or pastry together.

My mother always told me to rinse ice cubes before putting them in a beverage, but never told me the reason. My friends laugh at me for doing it, but I do it anyway. Do you have an explanation for this practice?

— Moshe Tuval, Jerusalem

Your mother was right. Freezers have odors in them, no matter how clean they are, but we usually don't sense the odors because the food is cold. Ice cubes pick up freezer odors and transfer them to the beverage to which they are added. The older the ice cubes, the stronger the odors will be imbued in the cubes. Try to change your ice cubes weekly, and rinse them under cold running water right before use. Your drink will definitely taste better.

Phyllis Glazer can be contacted at The Jerusalem Post Magazine, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem, 91000, or by e-mail: phyllisglazer@jpost.co.il. Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, as inquiries cannot be answered individually. "Feedback" also appears in The Jerusalem Post Magazine on Fridays.

The Jerusalem Post

Day 1

Long ciste

On a Limb

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book

By Haim Shapiro

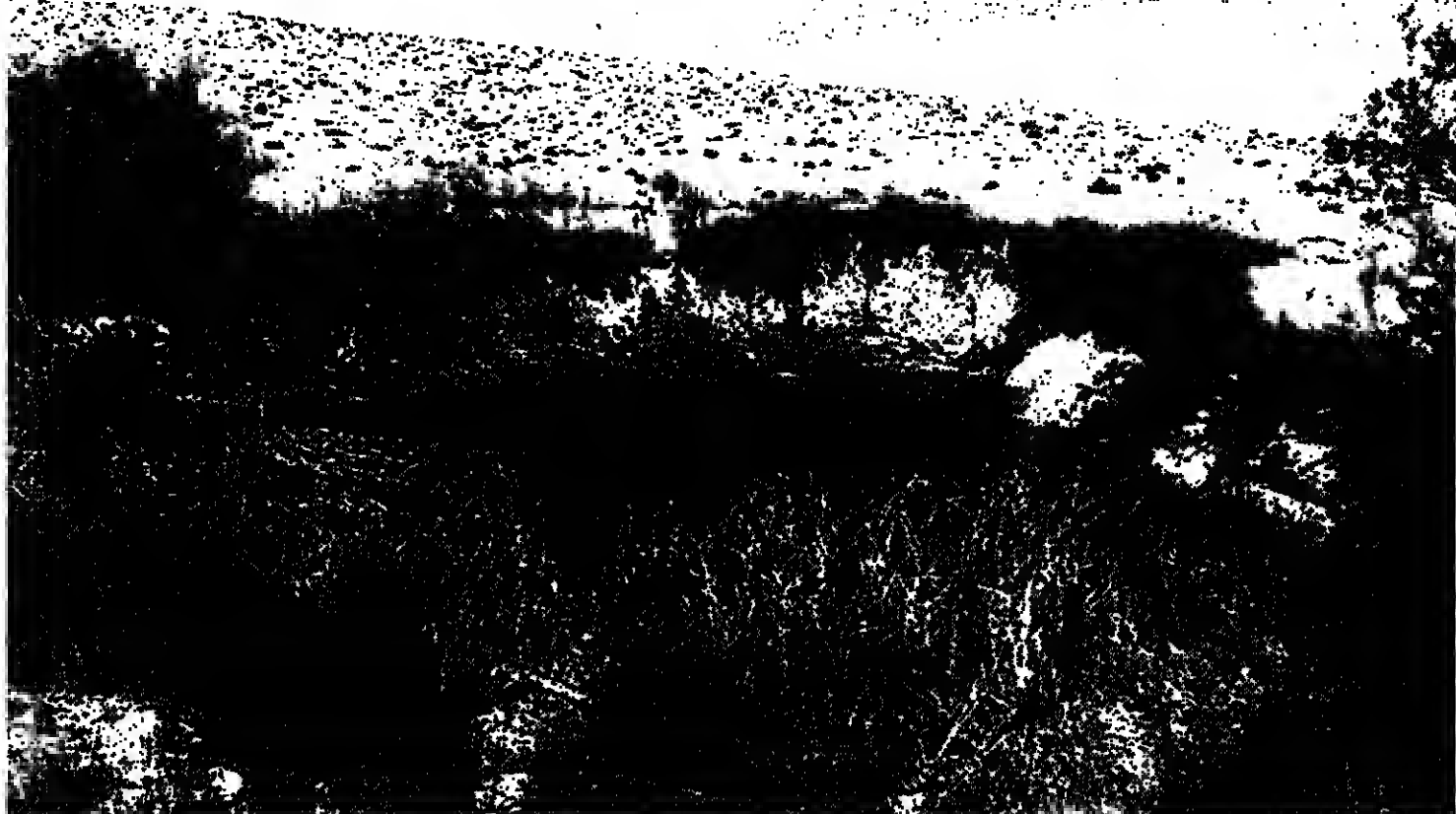
Long-Lotz cisterns

Even the cisterns which have fallen into complete disrepair usually serve as collecting facilities to some extent. During the dry season they still show a bit of dampness and have more trees and bushes than the surrounding area. Those that have remained intact or have been reconstructed in recent times often retain water throughout the year. Some of them are often used as informal swimming pools for bikers, although one would hesitate to

To get to the Lotz Cisterns, take the road going west from the Horot Junction (road number 171), just north of Mitzpe Ramon. Or drive south on the border road from Nitzana (described in an earlier column). The cisterns are spread out on

Just remember that although this part of the Negev may be a desert, it is about 950 meters above sea level, so it can get very cold on some winter days and bitterly cold at night.

Weekender Travel



This cistern near Mitzne Ramon is believed to have been built by King Solomon to settle and defend his southern border.

On a Limb

By Sybil Earlich



A different way to see the Negev

What could be more relaxing than a leisurely donkey ride in the wilds of the western Negev? Ofer Hartuv of Be'erotayim Tours, based at Ezuz, runs various activities, includ-

Donkey's years back in time

I start walking towards Ezuz. The area is rich in remains of the Turkish railway line built in 1916 in an ultimately unsuccessful effort to reach the Suez Canal during World War I. The British-built road from Nitzana to Ezuz runs along the railway embankment. I am relieved to see I am

The area is virtually devoid of human settlement today, but 2,000 years ago this was a densely populated area. It is thought that the north-western Negev supported a population of 85,000. The Nabateans built terraces to conserve every drop of water, and agriculture flour-


After a Beduin-style dinner and some storytelling, there is nothing to do but watch the huge moon rising and look at the stars, visible in such profusion that I find it impossible to identify any constellations.

The next morning we are up at 6. After

The limestone rocks indicate that this area was once under the sea. Fossils abound here, and we are shown one of the most extraordinary natural wonders I have ever seen - a fossilized coral reef. Like its surroundings, it is completely

Be'erotayim Tours, tel. (07) 655-5788, 655-7865; fax (07) 655-4369. The tour described in this article costs NIS 275, all inclusive.

1992



Joan Peters provides demographic and historical perspectives on the origins of the Arab-Jewish conflict over Palestine, and gives abundant justification for reversing the moral and legal presumptions that have led to Israel being cast as defendant before the court of world opinion.

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Bridge

A safer line of play

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

France defeats USA in Final

South dealer
East-West vulnerable

North
 ♠ A 6 5 3
 ♥ A K 7
 ♦ 8 4 3 2
 ♣ 9 6

West East
 ♠ K 8 7 ♠ 4
 ♥ Q 8 4 3 ♥ 10 9 6 2
 ♦ K 7 ♦ A 9 5
 ♣ 8 5 4 2 ♣ Q J 10 7 3

South
 ♠ Q J 10 9 2
 ♥ J 5
 ♦ Q J 10 6
 ♣ A K

South West North East
 1 ♠ pass 2 NT pass
 3 ♠ pass 4 ♠ (all pass)

Opening lead: ♦K and ♣2

The world bridge team championships ended last Saturday in Tunisia with victories for France and the US in the main events. France defeated the US in the final of the Bermuda Bowl by a score of 328 imps to 301. In the Venice Cup (restricted to women), the US defeated China by a score of 249 to 184. There were 160 deals played in the Bermuda Bowl and 128 deals in the Venice Cup.

The winning French team included Paul Chemla, Alain Levy, Christian Mari, Herve Moulet, Frank Multon, and Michel Perron. Five of these players were also on the winning French team last year in the World Olympiad. The US women's team was captained by Sue Picus and included Lisa Berkowitz, Mildred Breed, Marliesa Letizia, Jill Meyers, Randi Monton and Tobi Sokolow. This was a completely different team from last year's US team that won the Women's Team Olympiad (also defeating China in the final).

To reach the final of the Venice Cup, the US women's team defeated another US team in the semifinal, while China defeated France. In the Bermuda Bowl, France defeated Norway in the semifinal, while the US defeated another US team as well in the semifinal.

Today's deal comes from the semifinal of the Bermuda Bowl, in which the two US teams battled for a spot in the final. The teams were called USA1 and USA2.

All championship team matches are played at two tables (per match). Two pairs from each team play

against each other, one pair sitting North-South at one table, while their teammates sit East-West at the other table. Both tables play the same deals, so a simple comparison of scores is made after the match, and the difference in scores on each deal is converted to a scoring method known as "imps," which stands for "international match points."

Usually, you can win or lose 1 to 14 imps per deal (sometimes more on very high scores). These score differences are known as "swings." On today's deal, the swing was 10 imps when USA2 scored 420 in a four-spade contract at one table, while USA1 went down one (-50) at the other table.

The 470 points won by USA2 translated to 10 imps.

The reason four spades made at one table but went down at the other was due to the opening lead. The more aggressive opening lead allowed the contract to make, while the passive lead defeated the contract. The bidding in the diagram shows how North raised spades artificially with a jump to two notrump. This bidding convention is known as "Jacoby 2NT." South's rebid of three spades promised extra values, but no outside singleton and North settled for game. At one table, West led the aggressive king of diamonds.

He was hoping his partner had the queen or ace and that he could score a third-round ruff in diamonds. He was right, but the lead backfired in a subtle way. The king of diamonds won the first trick and a diamond was led to East's ace. Now a third round of diamonds was led and West ruffed it.

After taking the first three tricks, West led a club at trick four and South won in hand and led the queen of spades for a finesse. West played low, but South played low from dummy and the queen won the trick. Now declarer had the rest.

At the other table, West led a club on opening lead. Although declarer could now have made 11 tricks by finessing in spades, he was not looking at all four hands. Declarer took a theoretically safer line of play. He cashed the ace of spades and led a second round of spades. Declarer was afraid that if he took a losing finesse in spades, East would win the king and shift to diamonds to score the ace, king and a diamond ruff. Declarer's play of ace and a spade was an attempt to stop this from happening. But the opposite occurred. When West won the second round of spades with the king, he was able to shift to the king of diamonds and defeat the contract.

Matthew Granovetter can be reached at gran@vision.net.il



On a journey with Schenkelbach

By DAVID BRAUNER

"What is the genesis of the photographic art process?" asks veteran Israeli photographer Erwin Schenkelbach rhetorically. Narrowing his eyes, he answers: "That is the core question that interests us. For me, it's that I feel something. I don't even see the picture right away. First, I feel it. I feel a sense of excitement, something in me that begins to gel."

In his photography, Schenkelbach seeks to see "fantastic things," capture them and draw them out in order to show others what he has seen. The viewer thus becomes the other half of the artist's world.

"The artist succeeds when he makes the viewer his co-traveler on an exciting journey full of ambushes through the land of light, shadow and silence," says Schenkelbach.

He likens the feeling he experiences when he's about to take a picture to an encounter with the Gate to the Fourth Dimension. "I stand in some specific place and time, and ask myself what is it here that gives me this feeling. Why here? I don't see anything. I

look around, ask questions, look for answers. I know that here is the gate, and my camera is the key to open it."

Schenkelbach uses the term "Fourth Dimension" to describe the artist's imagination.

"I believe imagination stems from reality. It cannot come from nothing. I believe that if an artist creates a picture, painting or piece of writing, however strange, the reality has to exist - even if it is unseen - in another, parallel realm somewhere along the time-space continuum."

Erwin arrived in Israel in the early '60s. Since then, he has exhibited in 13 solo shows, here and abroad. The *British Journal of Photography*, in a rare break with its tradition of publishing only British-born photographers, ran a Schenkelbach spread in 1980 which featured young IDF soldiers.

The Israel Museum has purchased his work for its permanent collection.

ERWIN SCHENKELBACH absorbed his unique philosophy of photography from his father Berthold. In the small Polish town of Drohobycz in Galicia, 800 km.

Weekender Leisure

On Camera



(Above) 'One Step to Infinity' (Erwin Schenkelbach); (far left) Portrait of the Dalai Lama, 1994 (Erwin Schenkelbach); (center) Erwin Schenkelbach (David Brauner)

tists, writers and other intellectuals, including many Nobel Prize laureates.

In his portraiture, Schenkelbach attempts (though he admits that he doesn't always succeed) to penetrate the exterior, to discover "the dark side of the person, like the dark side of the moon."

"Photography is curiosity," he states, "asking what's happening on the other side."

The portrait photographer, believes Schenkelbach, has to break down the barriers between himself and his subjects, "so much so that they forget that you are there to photograph them. They become your partners in the photograph."

He recalls how in his IDF series his camera revealed soldiers who were not the idealized "gods of war" that other photographers showed, but rather "young men who did not want to be there, to wear uniforms, or to have to kill."

Schenkelbach confines his artistic oeuvre to black and white. He stresses that the fewer elements a picture contains, the more impact it has. "Impact is everything, and either a picture makes an impact or it doesn't. The artistic photographer must learn to throw away everything that is not essential."

His pictures are experimental in approach, subject matter and composition. Of the last, the artist says, "Before you can break the accepted rules of composition, you first have to know and practice for years the classic principles of composition."

Summing up his philosophy of art and photography, Schenkelbach quotes his spiritual mentor, the artist Max Ernst, from his autobiography: "I am a very lucky man, because I never found myself."

To which Schenkelbach adds, "Because when an artist finds himself, his art dies."

Chess

A surprise attack

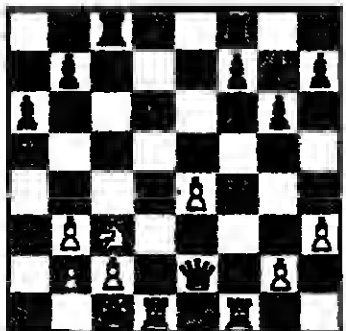
By NIGEL SHORT

There are two important psychological observations to make about the following game which strongly influences the eventual destination of the top prize in Novgorod this year. Firstly, I had noticed that my opponent Vladimir Kramnik has a tendency to coast home when he has amassed a number of early victories. Out of respect and fear, few players are prepared to seriously press the world's No. 2 in the latter stages of an event. I therefore resolved to do exactly that for this game, imagining that Kramnik would not be totally prepared for a fierce fight.

The second factor was that I was highly motivated for this particular encounter. In the first half of the event I succumbed to the amiable young Russian in fairly disappointing style. In the car, on the way back to the hotel, I was told by the tournament director, "Thank you, Nigel, for giving me such positive emotions...for losing to my good friend Vlodya." While I consider it perfectly reasonable for a groupie, for example, to express such opinion, I was less than happy that the person in charge of the event felt at liberty to do likewise.

White: Short
Black: Kramnik
 Novgorod, 1997
 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.b3! "Zugzwang!" exclaimed an amused Topalov afterwards, jokingly implying that black has no reasonable reply. Kasparov also liked his idea as it forced my opponent away from this narrow but exceedingly well analyzed repertoire. After a substantial think he answered 6...g6 7.Be3 Bg7 8.Bc4 0-0 9.Bb3. White has obtained a modest but satisfactory line against the Sicilian Dragon. 9...Na5. The best response is 9...Nxd4 10.Bxd4 b5! with an

even game. 10.Qd2 Bd7 11.Bb6 Rc8 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Qd3. To halt b5 and to discourage a knight incursion on c4. 13...a6 14.f4 e5! 15.Nde2 Qb6 16.0-0-0 Bb5. Black has played energetically and well and has almost solved his opening difficulties albeit after consuming a vast amount of time. If now 17.Nxb5 Qxb5 leaves the white e-pawn very vulnerable. 17.Qf3 Bxe2 18.Qxe2 Nxb3+ 19.axb3 exf4 20.Rhf1 Qa5?



Kramnik accompanied this poor move with a draw offer. It would have been better to play the obvious 20...Nh5 when after 21.Rf3 Rf8 22.Qd2 Re6 23.Nd5 Qd8 (23...Qc5?? 24.Rc3) 24.Nxf4 the game is about equal. 21.Rxf4 Qa1-2. Nb1. The black queen only appears actively placed on this square, in fact she is far from the defense of her king and a potential target herself. 22...Nd7! 22...Rc6? 23.e5 dxe5? 24.Ra1! is a good illustration of the pitfalls that await black. 23.Rxd6 Nc5 24.Qa3 a5? The final mistake. Black had to try 24...Qa2 which, while not exactly impressive, at least disturbs the white coordination. 25.e5! b5 otherwise Rd5 and Ra4 26.Rb4 Kxg6 26...b5 27.Rxb5 27.Rd5 Nc6 28.Qh6 threatening mate. Black makes a desperate sacrifice 28...Rxc2+ 29.Kxc2 Rc8+ 30.Nc3 and black resigns.

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You can leave your hat on

Headcoverings and wigs: not just for the observant anymore

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

There was a time when a hat was considered to be the best way that a woman could give herself a lift when she was feeling out of sorts. The whole procedure of buying a new hat, from following through on an intention to trying on and making the purchase, was guaranteed to chase the blues away or at least put them on hold.

For some Israeli women the acquisition of a new hat poses serious problems - not necessarily of a financial nature.

Because covering one's head in Israel is associated with religious observance, many secular women deliberately scorn hats and kerchiefs and at best will don a baseball cap.

Fashion-wise, this is a shame because the recent proliferation of millinery stores around the coun-

try has brought with it a new appreciation for creative headgear. Indeed, if one looks around at the hats being worn today, one can detect a far greater sense of individuality than say, two or three years ago, when there were fewer styles and colors available.

Almost in tandem with the tide of hats is the resurgence of wigs and hairpieces as fashion items and not only as an option for those women who cover their heads out of religious conviction.

The latter, of course, wear wigs nearly all the time, and most have at least two or three wigs in their possession. Some have as many as a dozen in different colors, styles and lengths. These are the women who really know how to project themselves into a better frame of mind.

At a recent fund-raising dinner, one of the guests who usually wears a very short, straight-haired, no-omense wig with a page-boy



cut, turned up in a frivolous, curly wig which was not only a different color, but framed her face differently and gave her added height. Even her best friends failed to recognize her when she said hello, and she had a wonderful night observing people's amazement when they realized who she was.

Last week, at another religious function, I was greeted by three women whose voices were familiar, but whom I couldn't quite

place. The reason? All three had been wearing different wigs on the previous occasions we'd met. In my mind's eye, the blonde had been registered as a brunette; the one with the soft, wavy hair had been wearing a chignon and the one with the gray wig had been dark-haired.

A wig really does much more for you than a hat. First, it can be combed or brushed in different ways, so it gives you much more

mileage. Some synthetic wigs are so well made that they only have to be shaken a little and patted or gently brushed and they look perfect, which saves a lot on hair-dressing expenses. Whereas a hat should suit the rest of your outfit, this is seldom a consideration when it comes to wigs. So long as the wig suits your complexion and your facial structure, you don't have to worry about whether it will harmonize with your clothes.

But best of all is what it does for preserving your youth. Even a gray or a white wig, because of the quantity of hair it contains, usually looks better than one's own hair. The majority of naturally gray- and white-haired women who wear wigs usually opt for color and it's remarkable how much younger they look as a result. In fact, it's sometimes a shock to see what they look like when they remove the wig.

Many wigs today - even the inexpensive variety - are so authentic looking that they fool just about everyone. This is a particular boon for women who are losing their own hair. The wig hides the results of the fall-out and is a morale booster when you look in the mirror.

Probably the best thing about a wig is its convenience. It takes only a few seconds to put on and adjust. It saves time and money at the beauty parlor. It's there for any unexpected social occasion, and it keeps you looking good.



مركز التحصيل

MOVIES

ologue/ 4:45
 By 7:15
 7:15, 7:30
 and Louise
 11 My Best
 7:45, 8:30
 COLONY #802866 Volcano 6, 8, 10
 Roseanna's Grave 6, 8, 10 HOLIDAY
 Conspiracy Theory #FaceOff 7:30, 10 STAR
 #802867 Volcano 7:30, 10
 The Peacemaker 7:30, 10 • My Best Friend's
 Wedding 7:30, 10
 RAMAT GAN
 GIL FaceOff/ 4:45, 7:15, 10 •
 The Peacemaker • My Best Friend's
 Wedding 5, 7:30, 10 • Conspiracy
 Theory #FaceOff 7:30, 10 • Lady and the Tramp 5
 KARLIE
 CINEMA Volcano • My Best Friend's
 Wedding 7:15, 9:30 • FaceOff/ 7, 9:30
 G.G. GIL #767730 FaceOff/ 4:45, 7:15,
 10 • Lady and the Tramp 5 • L.A.
 Confidential 7:15, 10 • Father's Day •
 My Best Friend's Wedding 5, 7:30, 10
 Air Force One 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The
 Peacemaker 5, 7:30, 10 • Double Team
 5, 7:30, 10 • Conspiracy Theory 7:15,
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 KIRYAT BIALIK
 GIL Conspiracy Theory 7, 9:30 • The
 Peacemaker • Air Force One 9:30
 Double Team • Volcano 7, 9:30 •
 Contact 7, 9:30 • Afterglow 7, 9:30 •
 Men In Black 7, 9:30 • Father's Day 9
 30
 KIRYAT SHMONA
 G.G. GIL #690580 FaceOff/My Best
 Friend's Wedding 4:30, 7, 9:30 •
 The Peacemaker 7, 9:30 • Lady and the
 Tramp 5
 NAHARIYA
 HECHAL HAZARETH Men In Black 8
 30
 PIPER NAZARET
 G.G. GIL Father's Day/The
 Peacemaker • My Best Friend's
 Wedding • Double Team 7:30, 9:30
 Conspiracy Theory • FaceOff 4:30, 7,
 9:30 • Cop Land 7, 9:30 • Lady and the
 Tramp 5
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 Contact 8:45 • Father's Day 5, 7:30
 • Conspiracy Theory 4:45, 7:15, 10
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 7:30, 10 • RAV CHEN • 8618570
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 G.G. HECHAL FaceOff/ 4:45, 7:15,
 10 • The Peacemaker 5, 7:30, 10
 Conspiracy Theory 4:45, 7:15, 10
 SIRKIN My Best Friend's
 Wedding • Double Team 5, 7:30, 10
 Afterglow 7:30, 10 • Volcano 5, 7:30,
 9:45 • L.A. Confidential 8, 7:15, 10
 Air Force One 4:45, 7:15, 10
 Father's Day • Lady and the Tramp 5
 (Hebrew dialogue) 5
 RAMAT GAN
 CIN MOFET As Tears Go By 8:30
 PARK L.A. Confidential 7:30, 10
 One/Only Best Friend's Wedding 5,
 7:30, 10 • Volcano 10 • Conspiracy
 Theory 5, 7:30, 10 • Men In Black 5
 Double Team 5, 7:30
 RAV-GAN 1-4 = 8197121 My Best
 Friend's Wedding 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The
 Peacemaker 7:15, 9:45 • Air Force One
 9:45 • Confidential 8:45 • FaceOff/ 7:
 9:45 • Lady and the Tramp 5 RAV-GAN
 1-3 = 6730887 FaceOff/ 7:15, 9:45
 Conspiracy Theory 7, 7:15, 9:45 • Double
 Team 5
 RAMAT HASHARON
 KOKHAV The English Patient 8:30
 9:30 • Anna Karenina 4:30
 9:30
 RAV CHEN
 CHEN Career Girls 7:30, 9:45 • Tree
 Lounge • O Quattro 7:15, 9:45 • Gabbler
 7:30 • Afterglow 10 RAV MOR Double
 Team 5, 7:30, 9:45 • My Best Friend's
 Wedding 5, 7:30, 9:45 • FaceOff/ 7:
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 Cop Land 9:45 • The Peacemaker 5, 7:15,
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 5 • Double Team 7:15, 7:15, 9:45 • The
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 7:30, 10 • The Truce 7:30, 10 • Volcano
 7:30, 10 SHOHAM
 RAV CHEN • As Tears Go By 7:45 • The Pitt
 7:45 • 10 • Double Team 7:45, 10
 YEHUD
 RAV CHEN FaceOff/ 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
 My Best Friend's Wedding 5, 7:30, 9:45
 FaceOff/ 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • Volcano 5
 7:30, 9:45
 All times are p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Likud rallies behind Sharon

MKs: No need for minister to resign; Begin keeps quiet

By SARAH HONIG and LIAT COLLINS

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon won wide support yesterday from Likud colleagues, a day after a Tel Aviv court rejected his libel suit and found he had misled the late prime minister Menachem Begin in the Lebanon War.

Again it seemed, as in the past,

that the more Sharon finds himself under attack, the more his popularity rises in his party.

The Likud issued an official statement "lending its full backing to Ariel Sharon and strengthening his hand."

"Sharon's contributions to this nation's security and development are enormous and he deserves our full support," it said.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was also supportive of Sharon. "Arik Sharon deserves our support and our gratitude for what he did for this nation's defense and growth," he said.

MK Uzi Landau said he knows "Arik for many years and I trust what he says. The government knew more about the conduct of the Lebanon War than it knew

during any other war."

MK Gideon Ezra summed up popular party sentiment in arguing that "the Lebanon War took place years ago. Arik Sharon is essential for Israel's security today, now at present."

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi thinks that "Sharon must stay in the government. His service and his influence in the government are essential to

our success."

MK Ze'ev Begin, whose testimony in the Tel Aviv district court was crucial in felling Sharon's suit, remained silent.

Knesset legal adviser Zvi Inbar said in response to a query from MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) that according to the Basic Law: The Government, a prime minister must step down for "a crime of moral turpitude," but not a

minister.

Cohen argued that given the ruling against Sharon, in a democracy, "it is not fitting that such a person hold a public office like that of minister."

The law says that a minister can be thrown out but only by a vote of 70 MKs, and it would seem unlikely that such a sum could be mustered against Sharon.

Berman: Sharon misled all of us

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon misled former prime minister Menachem Begin and his cabinet regarding the war in Lebanon, Yitzhak Berman, who served as Begin's energy minister, said yesterday.

The cabinet never discussed the strategy of the Lebanon War after it began in June 1982, said Berman, who testified at Sharon's libel suit against Ha'aretz journalist Uzi Benziman. "Four times Sharon said at the first cabinet meeting that the goal was to reach only 40 kilometers into Lebanon," said Berman.

In reaction to Sharon's demand to expose the cabinet's secret protocols about the war, Berman said, "As a cabinet minister I saw those protocols, and they are in keeping with my testimony."

Berman resigned three months later, in protest at then defense minister Sharon's repeatedly misleading the cabinet, he said.

"We never discussed the final goals or the strategy of the war. I resigned when I realized we were already in Beirut and had no idea where to go from there. Israeli troops remained in Lebanon three more years, suffering 650 casualties. Had we stayed within the 40-kilometer limit we had been told of there would have been many less."

Three days after the war began, said Berman, "I reached the conclusion that the cabinet was not receiving accurate or correct briefings. We suddenly got a request to approve a certain move, and then another and another. Why weren't we informed in advance?"

At one point Berman said he asked Sharon, "What conquest will you ask us to approve the day after

tomorrow, to defend the place you conquer tomorrow, on the basis of our decision today?"

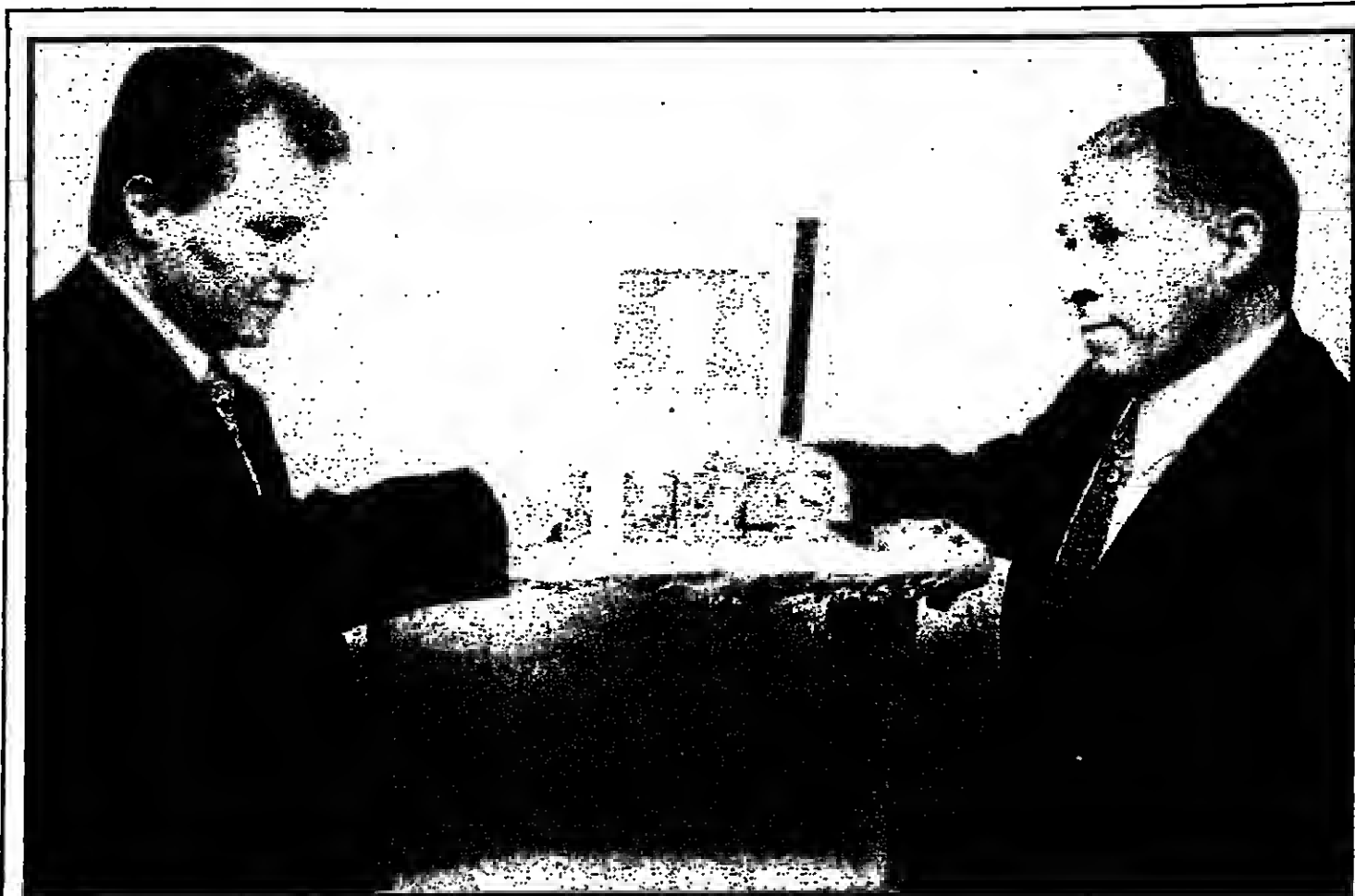
Despite Berman's demands for a cabinet debate on the war's goals, one was never held. "At first they spoke of penetrating only 40 kilometers into Lebanon. Later ministers David Levy and Zevulun Hammer joined my demands, but to no avail."

Then, he said, "We suddenly found that our forces were in the Beirut airport... although there had never been a cabinet decision to enter Beirut."

After that, he continued, "We took the Beirut-Damascus road, also with no cabinet decision. Then we entered east Beirut, again with no prior decision, and there were several other things." Berman recalled a special cabinet meeting Begin called to discuss Sharon's proposal to enter the Shi'ite Hizbullah quarter south-west of Beirut.

"Sharon said the Shi'ites, who were then friendly towards us, would greet the IDF troops with white flags and there was no fear of casualties," Berman said. "He assured us there were no PLO terrorists who would cause a military confrontation. But by then the ministers didn't believe him so much and some of them asked why the head of military intelligence didn't come to confirm there were no PLO or Syrian troops there."

The meeting was put off until the next day, Berman said, when then OC Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Yehoshua Saguy came and exclaimed, "What do you mean, the place is swarming with terrorists! There's bound to be an extremely severe clash." Begin announced he was removing the proposal from the agenda and closed the meeting. "But Sharon continued to surprise the cabinet, Berman said.



Rabin memorial

Labor whip MK Ra'anan Cohen (right) and Likud whip MK Meir Sheerit together light memorial candles for Yitzhak Rabin in the Labor faction room at the Knesset yesterday. The two spoke of the needs for national reconciliation and to refrain from incitement.

Forecast: Partly cloudy, temperatures lower than average.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	WIND
Amsterdam	05 41	08 48	partly cloudy
Berlin	04 39	07 45	rain
Buenos Aires	10 20	20 28	cloudy
Caracas	12 24	24 25	cloudy
Chicago	02 36	05 41	rain
Copenhagen	02 36	05 41	rain
Frankfurt	04 39	08 46	partly cloudy
Geneva	07 43	13 15	rain
Helsinki	07 43	13 15	rain
Hong Kong	19 86	24 75	clear
Jakarta	15 79	26 82	clear
London	14 57	19 88	cloudy
Los Angeles	18 61	29 84	clear
Madrid	13 55	19 88	rain
Manila	22 36	10 50	partly cloudy
Montreal	02 36	05 41	rain
Moscow	-08 21	01 30	clear
New York	05 41	10 18	cloudy
Paris	13 55	19 88	partly cloudy
Rome	13 55	20 85	cloudy
Stockholm	-08 18	02 36	cloudy
Sydney	18 61	22 75	cloudy
Tokyo	14 57	20 84	cloudy
Toronto	02 36	08 46	cloudy
Vancouver	02 36	14 57	partly cloudy
Zurich	05 37	11 52	cloudy

Winning cards

In yesterday's first daily Chance drawing, the winning cards were the jack of spades, the 9 of hearts, the ten of diamonds and the nine of clubs.

In the second drawing, the winning numbers were the jack of spades, the 7 of hearts, the ace of diamonds and the ten of clubs.

Likud body ducks primaries issue

By SARAH HONIG

After seven hours of deliberations yesterday, the Likud's court failed to decide on whether to allow the Knesset primaries issue to be brought up at the party convention, which begins on Sunday.

The drawn-out proceedings ended with a cryptic statement which none of the sides knew how to interpret. The court declared that "the convention's agenda can be determined by the delegates." This is largely seen as an attempt by the court not to get drawn into the controversy.

The proposals to the convention would mean the abolition of the Likud's primaries and the election of Knesset candidates by the 2,700-member central committee or by a forum of 10,000 electors, instead of by the 200,000 rank-and-file members.

Bill separates military, criminal investigations

AT THE KNESSET

By LIAT COLLINS

child benefits. If the payments are transferred to employers, as the Treasury suggests, not all will receive them, he said.

NRA, SPNI protest Beit Jann bill

The Nature Reserves Authority and Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel are protesting a bill by Salah Tarif (Labor), which passed preliminary reading yesterday, which would allow Beit Jann residents to use their land in the Mount Meron Nature Reserve in any way they like. The bill would also allow them to open a road in the reserve. The bill follows a longstanding and often violent dispute between the residents and the NRA.

Bill would freeze Trans-Israel Highway

Thirty MKs from all parties have signed a bill calling for the

Trans-Israel Highway project to be frozen. The bill was initiated by Landau, who is calling on National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, Neeman, and Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy to halt work on the project until the bill has been discussed. He called the project "megamorphic" and said the country would pay a heavy financial and environmental price for a road which would not solve the country's transport problems.

Bill aimed at auto theft

A bill by Rafi Elul (Labor) aimed at fighting car thefts passed preliminary reading yesterday. The bill calls for more supervision of spare parts dealers and for particularly sensitive parts to be marked with an identifying code. Elul said the trade in stolen parts costs the state NIS 1.5 billion a year. The number of stolen vehicles is expected to reach more than 45,000 this year.

Elon favors abolishing religious councils

Following a discussion in the Interior Committee yesterday,

Benny Elon (Moadet) is calling for the abolition of religious councils. "Shas and the National Religious Party should come to their senses and abolish the current system of religious councils," said Elon, who also said the councils should not be composed along the lines of political parties. "A party's gains from the appointments are not worth the real harm to the image of the provision of religious services," he said.

'Goodwill forum' established

A resolution by Rafi Edri (Labor) calling for a "goodwill forum" to be established to act to heal societal divisions passed yesterday. MKs from opposition and coalition parties have signed up for the forum which is expected to hold its first meeting after the memorial day for Yitzhak Rabin next week.

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Monday Dec. 8 MEET THE MEDIA
"Power without responsibility." We'll find out whether Stanley Baldwin's accusation is correct when we meet them all - Moshe Fogel, the Government Press Officer, Conny Muss of the Foreign Press Association and visit The Jerusalem Post, Ma'ariv, Galei Zahal and the TV studios. A full day of enlightenment with time for questions and maybe answers. Not to be missed. NIS 210 including lunch.

Tour escorts: Pia Rothstein

Monday Dec. 15 "IN DEPTH" IN HAIFA
Israel's power-house city is more than that as we'll show you. We'll visit the Persian Gardens at the Bahai Temple, the loveliest in the country, then the Templars area on the Carmel, settled in 1887, Beit Hagafen, the Jewish-Arab cultural center and the Technion, founded in 1924. We'll visit MLIM, Israel's largest industrial park, home to over 30 hi-tech companies. We'll see Haifa port and harbor and sail in Haifa Bay, visit Stella Maris, the cave of Elijah, the Carmelite Monastery and much more. NIS 230 including lunch.

Sunday Dec. 21 DISCOVER THE GREEN LINE
For many it's just a line on the map, but in the not too distant future it will be the main cause of confrontation. Come and speak to "green line residents" in Hashmuna, Kiriat Sefer, Lapid, Maccabim, Modi'in, and Neve Shalom. If you are interested in Israel's future then don't miss this tour. NIS 210 including lunch.

Sunday Jan. 11 RETURN TO BEIT SHEAN
Thousands of years of history - Greek, Roman, pagan, Jewish - now revealed for all to see. Theaters, temples, bath-houses, markets, frescoes, houses of ill-repute. All the beauty and cruelty that paganism offered. Even if you've been before, come again, because so much more has now been revealed, including the "Mona Lisa," in one of the world's most successful digs. NIS 200 including lunch.

Tour guides: Gabi Mazor Head of Archaeological Authority, Beit Shean.

The tour price includes transportation from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and return, entrance to all sites, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations. Lunch as indicated. 10% discount when you book all four tours. Pick-up and drop-off along the route when possible and arranged beforehand.

Reservations and further information:

SHORASHIM, POB 7588, 14 Rehov Abrahanel, Rehavia, Jerusalem 91074.

Tel. 02-566-6231 (9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.) Ask for Michal, Vered or Varda.



Ministry of Immigrant Absorption
The Director-General's Office

Notice Regarding Financial Assistance in 1998

Further to our previous notice, the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption announces that applications may be submitted for financial assistance from the 1998 budget, by public institutions working in immigrant absorption in the following fields: employment, science, art, sports, education and extra-curricular activities, culture and tradition, religion, welfare, and work with population sectors with special problems.

The estimated total 1998 budget for financial assistance is NIS 8 million.

Assistance will be granted, in accordance with Ministry criteria, as published in Yalkut Pirsumim, copy available at our head office (see below).

Institutions which meet these criteria, wishing to apply for financial support, should submit an application, with all the documents requested, not later than November 20, 1997, by 4 p.m., to one of the following:

Coordinator of the Assistance Committee at Head Office:
Mrs. Nava Sarig. Tel. 02-6752772

Regional coordinators:
Jerusalem Region 02-6241121
Haifa Region 04-6681316
Central Region 09-7424599
Southern and Beersheba Region 07-6280917
Tel Aviv Region 03-5221128/4157
03-8647965
03-9671782

Requests submitted not in compliance with the correct procedure, or submitted after the above date, will not be considered.

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